



AGAWAM

Advertiser-News

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"Your Hometown Newspaper"

Volume XXIII Number 15

April 13, 2000

Fire Dept. Gives Defibrillators To Primary Cruisers

by Kathy Shepard
Feature Editor

Agawam Police Department's primary line cruisers will now be equipped with automated defibrillators of the same style used on Agawam Fire Department's engines. Primary line cruisers include four district cars, the shift supervisor's car, and a traffic car. These are the vehicles most apt to be on the scene of a medical emergency or motor vehicle accident.

Defibrillators are used in extreme emergencies to restart a heartbeat when a patient has stopped breathing and there is no pulse. Two pads, connected to each other and to a battery-operated defibrillation unit, attach to the chest of the unconscious patient.

The defibrillators give automated instruction using a series of warning sounds, verbal instructions, and printed commands such as "stand clear." Everyone who will use the defibrillators will receive comprehensive training in their use which will complement other specialized training they have already taken, such as CPR.

SEE DEFIBRILLATORS - Page 2...

Swearing-In New Veterans' Agent...



ON MONDAY, APRIL 10th, at Agawam Town Hall, Edward Kellogg was sworn in as the new veterans' agent. Pictured from left to right: Town Council President Robert Magovern, Mayor Richard Cohen, Town Clerk Richard Theroux, Edward Kellogg, retiring Veterans' Agent Ruth C. Bitzas, and Doris & Alvin Kellogg (Edward's parents). Advertiser News photo by Kathy Shepard.

Mawaga Club Holds Annual Lunker Derby...



THE WEATHER WAS COLD, BUT THE FISH WERE HOT!!! Despite some unseasonably wintry conditions last Sunday, April 9th, the Mawaga Club's Annual Lunker Derby was once again a success. In left photo: Dave Cross and his son, Christopher, casting their lines for fish. In center photo: Molly Nowill proudly holding up two trout. In right photo: Steven Polaski, the happy winner of this year's Lunker Derby, with the three-pound, one-ounce trout that he caught. Advertiser News photos by Kathy Shepard.

DEFIBRILLATORS - from Page 1...

The defibrillators were presented to the Police Department from the Fire Department in order to increase safety to the citizens of the town. The defibrillators were purchased through the Fire Department's Ambulance Fund. "The program was overwhelmingly accepted by the Police Department when it was presented by the Fire Department," Police Chief Robert Campbell told us.

The average response is from three to five minutes or less for a medical emergency or a call for police or fire. Police Lieutenant Stephen Draghetti noted, "The paramedics on the ambulances have had defibrillators, and the next step was the purchase by the Firefighters' Association of the automated defibrillators for their engines."

"The purchase of these six defibrillators for the Police Department, coming through the ambulance account, not only saves the taxpayers any expense, but also parallels the quality of defibrillator already chosen for the fire engines," added Draghetti.

Commitment To Maintain Safety Of All Citizens

Mayor Richard Cohen commented, "I think this shows the commitment of the Mayor, the Fire Chief, and the Police Chief to maintain the safety of all our citizens. The dollar amount does not equate in value the saving of one life. I commend the Fire Chief and the Police Chief for working so well together to make this happen. This is a working relationship that is positive for the safety of our citizens."

Deputy Fire Chief Stephen Martin stated, "The Fire Department is extremely pleased to assist and cooperate with the Police Department in saving lives by obtaining these lifesaving devices."

Draghetti said that a grant has been applied for to cover training for defibrillator use, although they are already first aid and CPR trained. "The use of the defibrillators will definitely complement their CPR training," he said. "About 50 officers will receive the course, so we expect that training will be complete in about four weeks."

Campbell noted, "I have great respect for the Fire Department Rescue Team. I appreciate the efforts of the Fire Department and have utmost respect for the people who run the ambulance, and I say this from personal experience."

All the hometown news with us, every week...

* * *



THE AGAWAM FIRE DEPARTMENT was pleased to provide the Agawam Police Department with six automatic external defibrillators. From left to right: Patrolman R.J. Brown, Police Sgt. Richard Curry, Fire Chief David Pisano, Mayor Richard Cohen, Chief of Police Robert Campbell, Deputy Fire Chief Stephen Martin, and Fire Inspector Michael Mercadante. Advertiser News photo by Kathy Shepard.

Summary Of Agawam Republican Town Committee's April Meeting

The Agawam Republican Town Committee elected officers for a two-year term at its April meeting. Those elected were as follows: Scott Hibbert, chairman; Kent Lage, co-chairman; Rita Moore, second co-chairman; Ray Wyckoff, treasurer; and Virginia Lake and Priscilla Peterson, co-secretaries. Full members also elected to the committee were: Susan Dawson, Jeffery Dawson, Marie Kellogg, Ted Beck, Bernice Beck, and Robert Watson.

Republican Town Committee members who were elected in the March Presidential Primary are: Ronald E. LaRiviere, James D. Taylor, Cindy L. Sanford, Priscilla D. Peterson, Jessie Fuller,

Virginia L. Lake, Robert A. Magovern, Margaret A. Magovern, Rita G. Moore, Michael E. LaRiviere, Scott M. Hibbert, Ray A. Wyckoff, Kent A. Lage, William F. Euliano, Jr., George Bitzas, Mark E. McCormick, Anthony C. Bonavita, John J. Negrucci, Andrew C. Campbell, Christopher Clarke Johnson, Ronald E. Bennett, Mary A. Hunter, Vincent J. Callahan, Robert Chauvin, and Karan Chauvin.

Officers and members of the Agawam Republican Town Committee gave a tribute to retiring chairman Ron LaRiviere for his devotion and effort put forth during his term as committee chairman.

SCOTT M. HIBBERT

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Bolla (1.5 Ltr.) Merlot, Bardolino, Soave, Valpolicella, Pinot Grigio, Cabernet Sauvignon \$9.99	Sutter Home (1.5 Ltr.) White Zinfandel, Sauvignon Blanc \$6.99 Cabernet Sauvignon, Chardonnay, Merlot \$8.99	Almaden Vineyards (5 Ltr. Box) White Grenache, Mt. Chablis, Mt. Rhine, Golden Chablis, Blush, Alfresco Red \$7.99 White Zinfandel, Mt. Red, Burgundy \$9.99 Party In Box, Chardonnay, Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot \$10.99
Turning Leaf (750 ml.) Pinot Grigio, Chardonnay, Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot \$5.99 White Zinfandel \$4.99	Riunite (1.5 Ltr.) Lambrusco, Bianco, Rosato, D'Oro, Blush Bianco \$6.99	M. Trinchero (750 ml.) Merlot, Chardonnay \$9.99

APRIL LIQUOR SPECIALS

Canadian Club (1.75 Ltr.) \$16.99	Fleischmann Whiskey (1.75 Ltr.) \$11.99	Jack Daniels (1.75 Ltr.) \$26.99	Bacardi Spiced Rum (1.75 Ltr.) \$15.99	Fleischmann Gin (1.75 Ltr.) \$11.99	Cossack Vodka (1.75 Ltr.) \$9.99
Finlandia Vodka (1.75 Ltr.) \$21.99	Kahlua (750 ml.) \$13.99	Southern Comfort (1.75 Ltr.) \$17.99	Clan MacGregor (1.75 Ltr.) \$13.99	Tropico (750 ml.) \$9.99	Mike's Hard Lemonade (6 Pk. Btls.) \$4.99

APRIL BEER SPECIALS

Busch And Busch Light (30-Pk. Cans) \$12.99	Coors And Coors Light (30-Pk. Cans) \$16.99	Keystone Light (30-Pk. Cans) \$10.99	Heineken (Case — 24 12-Oz. Btls.) \$19.99	Miller Genuine Draft & MGD Light (Bar Btls.) \$10.99
Labatt's (12-Pk. Cans) \$6.99	Harpoon (12-Pk. Btls.) \$9.99	Saranac (12-Pk. Btls.) \$8.99	Sierra Nevada Pale Ale (12-Pk. Btls.) \$11.99	Beck's & Beck's Light (12-Pk. Btls.) \$10.99

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Revisiting Our Policy On "Letters To The Editor"...

In the past few weeks, for some unknown reason, *The Agawam Advertiser News* has received a growing number of unsigned "Letters To The Editor." Of course, none were printed and none will be.

So, at this time, it seems prudent, after over 20 years of printings thousands of "signed" letters, to revisit and explain our "Letters To The Editor" policy.

The AAN encourages your letters. We are flattered when we receive them. There are a few reasons for this. First, writing a letter takes time.

Your time is valuable. And time is a priceless commodity. Few of us can be frivolous with it. There are far too many things to do and so little available time to do them.

Therefore, sending us your letter to be published tells us you believe the time and effort writing the letter was worthwhile and well spent.

To expand on this, your "Letter To The Editor" becomes part *The Agawam Advertiser News* and further allows us to be Agawam's community sounding board. Your opinions will be read by lots of people in town. The letter makes us a better hometown newspaper.

Believe it. When there's a hot issue in town, our "Letters To The Editor" section is read and reread. We print as many as we can on a first-come, first-served basis. Remember the 1997 Town Election that included the Berkshire Power ballot question? The letters carried nearly the entire first section of *The Agawam Advertiser News*. It was plenty of work for us and lots of reading for you.

Letters that criticize or disagree with the actions of others naturally make the blood boil. We discourage letters that are nasty or are particularly laced with malice. I can hear the laughter out there because many letters do certainly seem that way. Believe this — some letters are the "abridged" versions. Wow. You should see the "unabridged" versions. A letter that, in our judgement, fails

to conform to any standard of good taste and of the law will not be published.

So, we do reserve the right to edit and condense letters. We won't print letters that attack or target other news media or news reporters. If you have a beef with another news outlet, take it up with them. We have received many of these letters in the past and each time this portion of the letter was either removed or edited.

Your signature, address, and phone number are required before we will print your letter. If we are not sure a letter is authentic and can't verify it by a phone call, we won't print it. If the letter was legitimate, the author will call us immediately to find out why it didn't make the letters section.

Also, we will not publish letters concerning specific consumer complaints.

And, for the benefit of our production staff, we ask that your letter by typed and double-spaced. If it must be written by hand, please print legibly. You can mail your letter to P.O. Box 263, Feeding Hills, MA 01030; bring it to us at our office; or fax it to us at 786-0193. Soon, we will be able to receive letters by e-mail.

The deadline for letters is Tuesday at 12:00 noon. We open weekdays at 6:30 a.m.

We thank-you, our readers, for your continued cooperation and look forward to publishing your thoughts and opinions in the future in our popular "Letters To The Editor" section.



Agawam Resident Offers Praise For Coach Ed Brown

To The Editor:

I am writing on behalf of my family to give honor to the memory of Ed Brown.

Ed was my daughter's soccer coach, and yet he was so much more. He was her friend, protector, teacher, and an adult role model that my wife and I were proud to have our daughter associate with.

Ed's gruffness at times could in no way hide the love he had for his players. In the middle of one of his occasional "outbursts" with his players, one of them would invariably say something that would first turn Ed's frown into a grin, then a laugh, soon followed by a wry shaking of his head as he walked away.

His players had "won" again. The wonderful thing was that everyone involved knew the "battle" would end that way. It was part of the bond between team and coach.

From her first day on his team, Ed accepted my daughter at face value. He first and foremost let her be herself, while always insisting she be part of a team. He taught her life lessons about fairness and unqualified acceptance she will carry with her forever.

Last, but in no way least, I know that the sound of Ed's voice booming out the words, "Agawam, you're standing around out there!" will be with my daughter every game she plays.

We will miss you dearly, Ed.

Paul F. Rannenberg
Agawam

Please Support The Bingo At The Polish Club In F.H.

To The Editor:

Yes, the air is just great in the smoke-free Tuesday bingo games at the Polish American Club. We are all going to be a little bit healthier with the cleaner air and our clothes no longer have the smokey odor from the cigarettes.

There is a downside to all this, however. Attendance has dropped from the 180-195 attendees to a meager 150-155. There is no longer the profit from which we were able to be major donors to the needs of our city.

We gave most generously to the Anne Sullivan Memorial Fund, the Firehouse Museum, the Agawam cheerleaders, the senior citizens' needs, the Veterans' Memorial, the various youth organizations, such as 4-H and the booster clubs for youth sports. We also supported Jimmy Fund, Miracle Flights for children, Heart Fund, etc.

Now, for the most part, the funds in our bingo account are dwindling as we meet commitments such as our scholarship funds, the Concert on the Green, and the Salvation Army.

We have cut our advertising budget in half, knowing that this may also negatively affect our attendance. If attendance doesn't climb, the next step is to cut the 10 door prizes down to five and hope we don't have to eliminate them entirely.

Requests for donations are at their peak at this point, and it is most embarrassing not to be able to respond to these requests.

For all of the people who complained about not attending our bingo because of the smoke, I ask, "Where are you now?" **We need you.**

And a note to all the smokers. We do miss you and want you back. With the milder weather, you can use the extended intermission time for a smoke break in our open pavilion. Almost everyone should be capable of refraining from smoking for an hour-and-a-half.

Bob Binnenkade
Member In Charge Of Bingo
Polish Club, Feeding Hills

Elected Officials Should Know & Perform Appropriate Roles

To The Editor:

Although the "unanimously approved" spending of a "\$61,000 windfall" in unanticipated state funding for computers is undoubtedly appreciated by our educational leaders, I find myself confounded by one vital question created by this appropriation. Are we to assume that these computers were not budgeted because money was not available? Which leads to the question, "Are these computers the prime priority of our elected School Committee?"

Regretfully, it appears not one city councilor had the foresight to request input from the body elected to oversee the public schools of Agawam, the Agawam School Committee. The Mayor is but one member of this committee; the Superintendent is an employee of this important department and suggests.

One would think that the role of a part-time city councilor is sufficiently time-consuming without usurping the duties of an equally essential, freely elected, humble School Committee.

Have the empty shelves of our new school libraries been mysteriously filled? Are teachers

limited in their ability to meet present needs because of a lack of paper or other necessary supplies? Undoubtedly, the Agawam School Committee is more familiar with these, as well as other similar concerns, than the majority of our devoted City Councilors.

I apologize to those who may believe I have been over-zealous in expressing my opinion in this matter, however, I will not deviate from my belief that elected officials should know and perform the role for which they sought election while acknowledging and graciously accepting the proposition that other elected officials are capable and accountable.

Sincerely,
William J. Miller
Agawam

Ed Caba's "Humble Example" Should Serve As An Inspiration

To The Editor:

What can one say when a beloved public figure departs, or when a living legend in local politics is no longer with us? Words alone are not enough, as they can't encapsulate the powerful emotions that overwhelm us.

No words exist that are potent enough to convey what the late and great towering titan of plain-spoken truth has meant to the people of this Town and their families. No words exist that are deep enough to convey the weighty sense of loss.

Union-News correspondent Jack Farrell noted that Ed Caba left a "hole" in our Town's "civic and political life," but no hole or dingle could approach the Grand Canyon in size. Our City Council President, Bob Magovern, called him a "treasure" — but few treasures exist invaluable enough to compare to the priceless Mona Lisa.

The former Mayor, Christopher Johnson, called him a "timeless advocate for the people" — but the timelessness of his populism was informed by present-day circumstance and a vision for the

SEE LETTERS - Page 5...



The Agawam Advertiser•News

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LETTERS - from Page 4...

future. One former City Council President, Kent Servis, called him "the Guardian of the Town of Agawam" — yet Ed was proactive in advancing our Town as well as attempting to defend it against the threats that our Town has known.

Ed Caba's granddaughter, Kristen Wright, was correct and to the point, as our City Council President noted, in observing that Ed Caba's "[p]olitics are about people, not about the press." It could also be said that Ed Caba's politics prioritized people above not only the press, but above politics itself and above the profits of those he stood as Guardian against. I was always content to call Ed an ally, my friend, a trusted and true public servant, and a genuine hero to me.

Respected and admired by many, perhaps by thousands upon thousands, within our Town, Ed Caba — via the sheer force of his keen intellect, insight, moral code, and personality — could get things done and bring local government ever closer to the people.

We could always count on Ed Caba to speak the Truth to Power. His integrity could never be questioned. His politics stood beyond reproach. Constituent service was Ed's middle name. Few pillars of this community could ever match the size and strength of the soul of Ed Caba, the Middle Pillar, the soul who made improving all of our lives his very own life's work.

If I risked contracting the flu by holding his sign election night in the pouring rain, it was a flu that I suffered with pleasure. His election loss last year was a depressing one, and I couldn't wait to hold that sign again.

Agawam Sister City Comm. Seeking New Commissioners

Joseph F. Langone, chairman of the Sister City Commission, has announced that any Agawam resident desiring to serve as a commissioner may submit a letter requesting appointment to Mayor Richard A. Cohen, c/o Town of Agawam, 36 Main Street, Agawam, MA 01001.

The recent passage of the Sister City Commission Ordinance, which fixed the number of commissioners at 30, has created approximately 10 vacancies.

Interested individuals must submit their letters no later than Thursday, April 20th.

* * *

Our office will be open on Monday, April 17th (Patriots' Day).

* * *

I deeply regret that I could not approach him on my trip to pay my last respects. The realization that he would not answer disturbed me. Never before was this man at a loss for words, and my final memories of him ought not include silence. I treasure the memories of his plain-spoken truth, and I wanted him in my mind's eye to be lively.

Rest in peace, Ed, and please keep watch over your Town. I'm deeply saddened, and I miss you terribly. Let us pray your humble example inspires many.

Sincerely yours,
Owen R. Broadhurst
Agawam

Responding To "Controversy" At Agawam Town Spelling Bee

To The Editor:

This letter is in response to the recent letter concerning the "controversy" at the Agawam Town Spelling Bee.

Because this matter was opened to public scrutiny, I believe I must also make a public response. I want to state for the record that the Agawam Junior Women's Club firmly stands behind the unanimous decision made by our judges.

These were three highly professional people who volunteered their time to support this worthwhile educational program. They all took their jobs very seriously, following all the rules governing the Spelling Bee, and I thank them for that.

When the contestant in question gave the spell-

ing on stage, it was immediately ruled that the word was spelled incorrectly. It was evident that not everyone agreed this to be the case, so the contestant and her mother made a protest to the judges as afforded by the rules.

The judges reviewed the spelling on audiotape — the most accurate record of what occurred on stage because of its direct feed from the microphone used by the contestants. It was clear after reviewing this recording several times that the word was, indeed, misspelled, so the three judges unanimously upheld the original decision.

The ruling was made solely on the spelling given by the contestant while she was on stage and its review on the audiotape. I'm very sorry that the Goodman family felt that this decision implied that they were lying.

The judges were also correct not to let some vocal members of the audience influence their decision. Spelling Bee Rule No. 11 clearly states that the judges are in complete control of the bee and their decisions are final. For the judges to have ignored the recorded evidence and put aside these rules to spare the feelings of one child would have been unfair to all the other children who participated in the bee and were judged by the same standards.

I would like to conclude by saying that all the contestants who participated in the Spelling Bee were winners. They conducted themselves with poise, dignity, and maturity. Their parents should be proud of them.

Sincerely,
Theresa Conklin
Spelling Bee Co-Chairwoman
Agawam Junior Women's Club

Regular Town Council Mtg. Agenda

Tuesday, April 18th / Agawam Middle School - 7:30 P.M.

1. Citizen's Speak Time
2. Roll Call
3. Moment of Silence and the Pledge of Allegiance
4. Minutes - Regular Council Meeting of 4/3/2000
5. Declaration from Council President
6. Presentation of Petitions, Memorials & Remonstrances
 - None.
7. Report of Council Committees
 - None.
8. Elections
 - None.
9. Public Hearings
 - (a)
 1. PH-2000-5-(TO-2000-35)-Application for Class II Dealer License, Paul E. Malkoon d/b/a Malkoon Motors, Inc., 1039 Spfld. St., FH, MA (Conduct

Public Hearing).

10. Old Business

- (a)
 1. TO-2000-31-Transfer-\$6,500 from Reserve Fund (16605-57300) to Health-Temporary Salaries (15101-51020)(Mayor).
 2. TO-2000-32-Application for License for three (3) automatic amusement devices for Agawam Bowl, 359 Walnut St. Ext., Aga., MA
 3. TO-2000-33-Application for License for three (3) automatic amusement devices for Agawam Bowl, 363 Walnut St. Ext., Aga., MA
 4. TO-2000-34-Application for License for three (3) automatic amusement devices for Quest Inc. d/b/a Michael Anthony's, 1251 River Road, Aga., MA
 5. TO-99-25-Discussion of Tuckahoe Development Corp. v. Town of Agawam (EXECUTIVE SESSION)

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— Agawam Obituaries —

Joseph D. Gentile

Joseph D. Gentile, 72, of Agawam, died recently at home.

He was a maintenance supervisor at Westfield State College for 17 years and retired in 1991.

He was previously a master plumber for several area businesses for 27 years, and owned and operated Joseph D. Gentile Plumbing & Heating Co. He also founded the Gin Town Beagle Kennels.

Born in Springfield, he was a graduate of the former Springfield Trade High School and lived in Agawam since 1955.

He was a fireman second class in the Navy and a communicant of St. Anthony of Padua Church.

He belonged to Plumbers Union Local 89, the Nocturnal Adoration Society at the church, the Stigmatine Fathers, and the West Springfield Elks Lodge.

He also was a fourth-degree member of the West Springfield Knights of Columbus Council and president of the Senior Citizen and Golden Agers of Agawam.

He leaves his wife of 52 years, the former Emily L. Magistri; two sons, Joseph J. of Feeding Hills and Thomas D. of Southampton; two daughters, Dr. Mary A. Gentile of Spokane, Washington, and Nancy J.G. O'Hare of Agawam; and three grandchildren.

The funeral was scheduled for Thursday morning, April 13th, at Colonial-Forastiere Funeral Home and the church, with burial in Springfield Street Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Grandchildren of Joseph D. Gentile Education Fund, in care of Westbank, Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, MA 01030.

Leonard C. Belcher

Leonard C. Belcher, 86, of Agawam, a former city official, died recently at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield.

He was superintendent of Public Works for more than 30 years and retired in 1978. He also managed concessions at the former Riverside Park.

Born in Worcester, he was a graduate of Agawam High School and Suffield Academy in Connecticut. He was a member of the Tri County Highway Association and a retired member of Western Massachusetts Basketball Association. He also coached Little League for many years.

He leaves three daughters, Jessie M. Yerrid of New Smyrna Beach, Florida, Helen F. Chester of Feeding Hills, and Mary M. Callahan of Ft. Myers, Florida; five grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

The funeral was held at Colonial Funeral Home and in St. John the Evangelist Church, with burial in Agawam Center Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to Bright-

side for Families and Children, 212 Riverdale Street, West Springfield, MA 01089.

Ernest L. Thurston

Ernest L. Thurston, 78, of 145 High Street, Agawam, a long-time area "Santa Claus," died recently at home.

A life member of the Verdi Club in West Springfield and the Southwick Country Club, he played the role of Santa Claus at the Verdi Club, the Holyoke Soldiers' Home, and Heritage Hall Nursing Home in Agawam for many years.

He was a roofer for Martin Roofing since 1979.

Born in Roxbury, Vermont, he was raised in West Springfield and moved later to Springfield.

He was an Army Airborne veteran of World War II and was wounded in action.

He leaves his long-time companion, Leona "Nancy" Page of Agawam, and his niece, Alice Thurston Taylor of West Springfield.

The funeral was scheduled for Thursday morning, April 13th, at West Springfield Curran-Jones Funeral Home and Immaculate Conception Church, with burial in Paucatuck Cemetery, all in West Springfield.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Lung Association, 393 Maple Street, Springfield, MA 01105.

Daniel J.P. Carrier

Daniel J.P. Carrier, 38, of 47 Pleasant Valley Road, Feeding Hills, died recently in Baystate Medical Center in Springfield.

He delivered medicine for Baystate Medical Center in Springfield.

Born in Springfield, he lived in the Agawam/Feeding Hills area since 1969 and was a 1979 graduate of Agawam High School, where he played hockey.

He was a communicant of Sacred Heart Church in Feeding Hills.

He leaves his parents, Andre and Jeannine (Chabot) Carrier; three brothers, Michael and Andre Jr. of Feeding Hills, and Steven of Agawam; and two sisters, Nancy Brouillard of Sterling, Connecticut, and Diane Roy of Feeding Hills.

The funeral was held at Agawam Curran-Jones Funeral Home and in the church, with burial in Springfield Street Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, P.O. Box 93305, Washington, D.C. 20090-6305.

Phyllis M. Fenton

Phyllis M. (Bashaw) Fenton, 94, of Ridge Avenue, Agawam, who owned an athletic-supply

store, died recently at Mercy Hospital in Springfield.

She and her late husband owned Fenton's Athletic Supplies in Springfield, where she was the bookkeeper. She retired in 1974.

Born in Springfield, she was a 1923 graduate of Commerce High School and moved to Agawam in 1930.

She was a member of the Agawam Golden Age Chapter 2, and a charter member and communicant of St. John the Evangelist Church.

Her husband, James F. Fenton, died in 1989.

She leaves a son, James F. Jr. of Agawam; five grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

The funeral was held at Agawam Funeral Home and in the church, with burial in St. Michael's Cemetery in Springfield.

Memorial contributions may be made to any charity.

Bernadette Roberts

Bernadette Roberts, 101, of Grove Street, Braintree, and formerly of Agawam, died recently at a Braintree nursing home.

She was a waitress and cook in several Agawam restaurants, and a long-time Agawam resident before moving to Braintree a few years ago.

She was born in Quebec, Canada.

Her husband, Raymond Roberts, predeceased her.

She leaves a daughter, Lillian (Reil) Killian of South Weymouth; 20 grandchildren; great-grandchildren; and great-great-grandchildren.

The funeral was held at Nowak Funeral Home in the Indian Orchard section of Springfield, with burial in St. Thomas Cemetery, West Springfield.

Ruth M. Barrett

Ruth M. Barrett, 93, of Corey Colonial, Agawam, died recently in a Connecticut nursing home.

She was an eight-year executive secretary at the former Burgess & Leith in Springfield and retired in 1975. She was previously an executive secretary at the former National Bronze in Springfield.

Born in Bellows Falls, Vermont, she was raised in Springfield and lived in Agawam for the past 19 years, where she was a communicant of St. John the Evangelist Church.

She leaves a sister-in-law, Marion Barrett of Hudson, New Hampshire, and six nieces and nephews.

The funeral was held at Agawam Curran-Jones Funeral Home and in the church, with burial in St. Michael's Cemetery in Springfield.

Memorial contributions may be made to the church, Main Street, Agawam, MA 01001, or to any other charity.

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF AGAWAM PLANNING BOARD

The Agawam Planning Board will hold a public hearing on Thursday, April 20, 2000 at 7:15 PM at the Faolin Peirce Community Room, Agawam Police Station, 681 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, MA. The purpose of this hearing will be to hear the petition of Alfred Pajer for a proposed zone change. The proposal is to rezone approximately 8.5 acres of land at the corner of Suffield and Cooper Streets from Business A and Residence A-2 to all Business A.

BY ORDER OF:
Charles R. Calabrese, Chairman
Agawam Planning Board

Published: April 13, 2000

LEGAL NOTICE

AGAWAM CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING

The Agawam City Council will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, April 18, 2000 at 7:30 P.M. at the Agawam Middle School, 68 Main Street, Agawam, MA on a Class II Dealer License for Malkoon Motors, Inc., 1039 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, MA.

Published: April 13, 2000

Ursula Retzler
Clerk of the Council

David A. Ladizki

Attorney At Law



46 Suffield Street
Agawam, MA 01001

(413) 786-9000

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Christmas And Winter Decorations At Agawam Center Cemetery 820 Main St., Agawam

Must be removed by April 16, 2000. The cemetery will remove the remaining boxes and decorations.

Elvira Mercolino

(April 14, 1915 - September 20, 1999)

*May you always walk in sunshine
And God's love around you flow,
For the happiness you gave us,
No one will ever know.
It broke our hearts to lose you,
But you did not go alone,
A part of us went with you,
The day God called you home.
A million times we've needed you.
A million times we've cried.
If love could only have saved you.
You never would have died!*

*Sadly missed by
Jeff, Cindy, Tim, Doug, Colleen,
Alec, Tyler, Taylor, And Haley*

from the State Senate

by State Senator Linda J. Melconian



Health Care For Your Child

We are very fortunate to live in Massachusetts because every child in the Commonwealth is eligible for some form of health care. I believe this fact is so important that it bears repeating — every single child, regardless of income level or citizenship status or any other perceived barrier to eligibility, is eligible for some form of health care. No child in Massachusetts should be without these vital services.

Over the last five years, thanks to increases in state and federal money, as well as money from the recent settlement with tobacco companies, there has been a dramatic expansion in the number and kind of health insurance programs for children and families. Massachusetts has become a national leader in providing health care to its citizens, especially its children, and now it is up to each of us to see that no child is left behind.

Children's health care begins at birth. That is why we provide early intervention services for children, from birth to age three, who are in danger of falling behind at this crucial stage in a child's development. I am proud to say that I initiated this legislation in 1989 when my bill creating this program was passed into law. This initiative has grown into a network of 65 programs statewide that reaches out to children who are born with Down's syndrome, autism, and neonatal disorders. The program is also available to children who are experiencing extreme environmental stress due to homelessness, substance abuse, or domestic violence.

Low-income children also have access to

outstanding health care services. For children (and some parents) whose family's income is less than 200 percent of the federal poverty level, MassHealth provides full health insurance. That means that the children of a family of four making less than \$34,000 would be eligible for doctor and hospital visits, immunizations, mental health services, emergency care, and a number of other benefits.

But children who do not qualify under these income guidelines are still eligible for health care. Under the Children's Medical Security Plan, all children from age 0 to 18 (including immigrants that do not qualify for MassHealth) are eligible for a health plan that includes preventative care, \$250 in prescription drug coverage, 20 mental health visits annually, \$1,000 in hospitalization, and \$500 in durable medical goods.

Massachusetts also has a special program for children with disabilities called CommonHealth. This program is available for all disabled children, regardless of income level, and provides full health care including hospital visits and physical therapy services. This program also offers "wrap around" services for children, whereby CommonHealth will fill the gaps when children have private health insurance that is insufficient to meet their health care needs.

These three programs — MassHealth, the Children's Medical Security Plan, and CommonHealth — provide comprehensive health services for children across the state. If you would like more information about MassHealth or CommonHealth, I urge you to call 1-800-841-2900; and, for information on the Children's Medical Security Plan, 1-800-531-2229. Additional information about these programs is also available at <http://www.magnet.state.ma.us/dma/>.

Last year, in spite of the availability of these programs, 4.4 percent of children aged 0-5 and 7.1 percent of children aged 6-18 were uninsured in Massachusetts. The tragedy of children without insurance is completely avoidable in Massachusetts.

Next week, I will talk about how you and your community leaders can work together to coordinate resources to improve access to health care for all children and reduce these percentages to zero. No child in Massachusetts should be without health insurance, and I hope that each of you will join with me to achieve this landmark goal.

For photo coverage in The AAN, call 786-7747 or 786-8137; however, please give us at least 72 hours' notice. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

On Saturday, May 6th...

Retirement Dinner & Dance For Veterans' Agent Ruth C. Bitzas

A gala Retirement Dinner & Dance is scheduled to be held Saturday, May 6 for Ruth Carr Bitzas, Agawam Veterans' Agent and Director of the Western Hampden District, who will be retiring on April 14th.

The event will be held at The Oaks, 1070 Suffolk St., Agawam as a tribute to this outstanding advocate for veterans the past 18 years.

Deadline for reservations is April 30th. A cocktail hour will be held from 6:00-7:00 p.m., with dinner at 7:15. The menu will include choice of prime rib of beef or baked filet of scrod. Cost is \$30 per person and tables of 10 are available.

Anyone who would like to speak at this event should contact Dianne Moreau at 786-0400, ext. 236 or 237.

However, if anyone would like to approach the podium and offer their best wishes or congratulations to Bitzas during this event, they do not have to contact Moreau ahead of time.

Reservation checks should be made payable to the Ruth Carr Bitzas Testimonial, and mailed to Dianne Moreau, Dept. of Veterans' Services, 36 Main St., Agawam, MA 01001. Please indicate your entree choice when making reservations and the number of people.

Income Level Increases For Fuel Assistance

The Agawam Council On Aging would like to announce the following increases in the income levels for fuel assistance:

Household Size	Income
1	\$16,480
2	\$22,120
3	\$27,760
4	\$33,400
5	\$39,040
6	\$44,680
7	\$50,320
8	\$55,960

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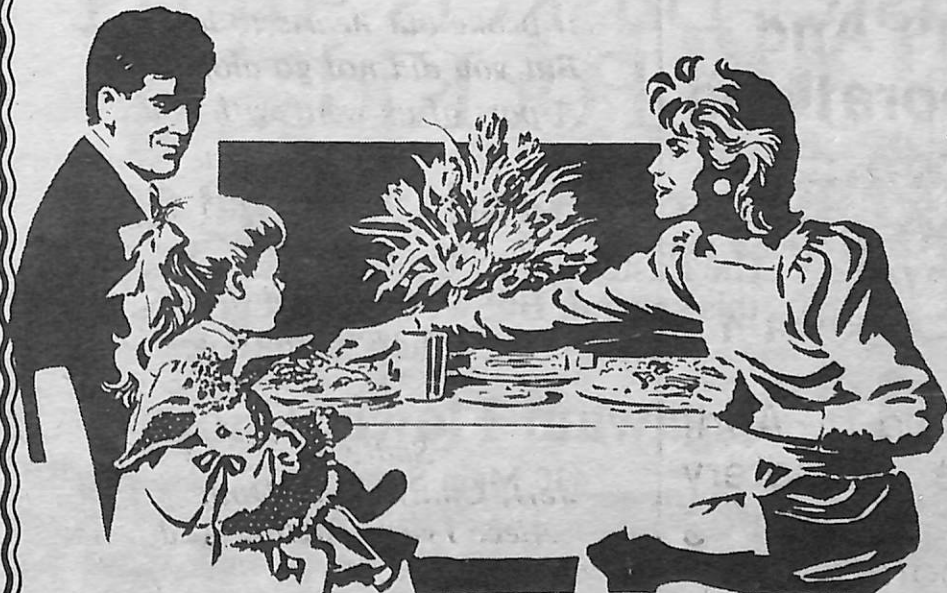
Easter Sunday April 23rd

"Brunch Buffet"

Open
10:00 A.M.
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You To Enjoy Your
Easter Meal With Them...

Congratulations, Joanne Beltrandi...

Housing Authority Director Retires After 14 Years

by Kathy Shepard
Feature Editor

Joanne Beltrandi of Agawam retired as executive director of the Agawam Housing Authority at the end of March after 14 years of service. The week before her retirement, a light luncheon was served in her honor at the Agawam Senior Center, where family and friends came together to wish her well and to thank her for her years of service to the community.

Four citations were given to Mrs. Beltrandi, including one presented by Feeding Hills resident Joann McGeoghan, representing Governor Paul Cellucci; one from State Representative Dan Keenan; one from Mayor Richard Cohen; and one from State Senator Linda Melconian, represented by administrative aide Rosemary Sandlin.

"Along with friends, family, and our public representatives, so many of the tenants came, too, wanting to wish me well in my retirement," Mrs. Beltrandi said. "I was overwhelmed."

Retired Agawam High Music Director Darcy Davis and his band played music during the festive event, and many people danced, tapped their feet, sang along, or just sat back and enjoyed the tunes. Davis remembered that Mrs. Beltrandi had been a cheerleader during his first year at Agawam High.

She was a member of chorus in high school and played saxophone in the band. She is a graduate of Agawam High and a lifelong resident of Agawam. She married Realtor-BUILDER John Beltrandi, also an Agawam alumnus, and their marriage lasted 25 years until his death in the early 1980's.

She went to work at Edward's Drug Store (now CVS) on Springfield Street and then took a job with the Agawam Housing Authority in 1985 as an assistant to the director. She advanced to assistant director, and in 1996 she became the executive director.

Several Accomplishments Under Her Direction...

Under her direction, there were several accomplishments for the Housing Authority, such as the installation of new hot water heaters in 12 buildings at its veterans' development, the J.J. Brady Village in Feeding Hills, working with RISE and Bay State Gas Company.

Roofs on 13 buildings at Colonial Haven were replaced, with Leon Pernice and Associates as architect and Vereika Construction from Easton as the contractor. A new maintenance shed at Colonial Haven was constructed as well.

New coin-operated washers and dryers were installed at all four of the elderly developments: Country View at 95 North Westfield Street, Feeding Hills; Colonial Haven at 886 Main Street, Agawam; Meadowbrook Manor at the Senior Center; and Danahy Schoolhouse on Maple Street.

Forty-one stoves and refrigerators were replaced at Country View and 53 at Colonial Haven, and new sidewalks at Meadowbrook Manor were installed, with Joe Russo of Agawam as the contractor. Deleaded and new siding and storm doors were installed at J.J. Brady Village under the direction of Leon Pernice and Associates, architect, and N.L. Construction of Ludlow as contractor.

Also, under Mrs. Beltrandi's direction, the fire alarm systems in 64 apartments at Meadowbrook Manor and 44 apartments at J.J. Brady Village were updated, with Robert Hall Engineering and Northup Electric as contractor, and an "on-call" policy was instituted for the maintenance department.

Three computers were installed in the executive office to meet the Y2K compliance with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Modernization of bathrooms at J.J. Brady Village is presently being worked on and will commence shortly in the near future, working with Leon Pernice as architect, and replacement windows are slated for installation at Meadowbrook Manor in the next few months, with Reinhardt Associates as architect.

She added, "The expression on someone's face when we were able to help them and they knew they had a place to stay for life will always be the most meaningful memories for me."

Mrs. Beltrandi was a member of the Western Massachusetts Executive Directors Association, and she was its secretary for two years. She has taken classes at Bay Path College, Springfield Technical Community College, and Holyoke Community College (mainly computer and word processing courses).



JOANNE BELTRANDI (center), the retired executive director of the Agawam Housing Authority, is honored by Mayor Richard Cohen and Rosemary Sandlin (administrative aide for State Senator Linda Melconian). Advertiser News photo by Kathy Shepard.



AT JOANNE BELTRANDI'S RETIREMENT PARTY: Beltrandi is pictured with several of her grandchildren (from left to right): Joanne Brignoli, Tony Brignoli, Nikki Bentradi, Janielle Beltrandi, and Vinnie Beltrandi. Advertiser News photo by Kathy Shepard.

All the hometown news with us, each and every week ...
ADVERTISER NEWS!!!

Easter Baskets Aren't Just For Kids.



Easter is Sunday, April 23rd.

The Easter bunny can't deliver a basket this special. But we can. Just give us a call and we'll hop right to it.

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Open Mon.-Sat., 9-6

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SEE BELTRANDI - Page 10...

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TILE**

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BELTRANDI - from Page 8...**Her Retirement Plans...**

Mrs. Beltrandi now looks forward to spending more time with her three children and seven grandchildren, and will spend time visiting her father in Florida. She belongs to St. Anthony of Padua Church, where she is on the Parish Council and Spiritual Life Commission. She is also a member of the Future of Hope Continuation Committee at the church.

One of her great loves is music, and she will continue her "labor of love" as choir director and organist at both St. Anthony of Padua Church and St. Theresa of the Child Jesus Church. "I will continue to do this. Music is very relaxing and comforting."

"My faith and my church mean the world to me. Although I grew up a Protestant, I became a Catholic about two years after my marriage (her husband was Catholic). My faith sustained me through his death."

Another special source of comfort is Amber, a kitten born a day or so before Christmas and given to Mrs. Beltrandi by a friend. Amber snuggles up and sleeps with her, and carries on a "trilling" conversation with Mrs. Beltrandi at breakfast. "The minute I sit down, Amber is in my lap. She is such great company."

FireWise...

by Fire Chief David Pisano
Home Safe Home!

Is your home safe from fire? Most of us like to think so, but each year most people who die from fire at home.

The Agawam Fire Department suggests that you take a few moments to check some areas in your house for hazards that could cause a fire:

LIVING OR FAMILY ROOM

- Eliminate overloaded electrical outlets.
- Minimize the number and lengths of extension cords.
- Allow space around TV and stereo equipment to prevent overheating.
- Use metal screen in front of fireplace.
- Have large, deep ashtrays for smokers and make sure all smoking materials have been extinguished before disposal.

KITCHEN

- Keep surfaces clean and free of grease.
- Do not leave the kitchen while the stove or oven is in use. Many fires begin during unattended cooking.
- Turn pot handles in so they can't be knocked off or pulled down by small children.
- If you have a grease fire, put a lid on it! Using water will spread the fire.

BEDROOMS

- Make a firm rule not to allow anyone to smoke in bed.
- Working smoke detectors should be installed outside each sleeping area. If you sleep with your bedroom door closed, install one in your room. Test the detector monthly and change the battery annually.
- Have a home fire escape plan and practice it with your family.

BASEMENT, GARAGE, AND STORAGE AREAS

- Have furnace, wood burning stove, or any other heating appliance inspected by a professional prior to each heating season.
- Keep areas around heating equipment free of papers, rags, or flammable liquids.
- Store gasoline, kerosene, or other flammable liquids in safety cans outside your home.

THROUGHOUT THE HOUSE

- Keep matches and lighters stored where children cannot find them.
- Post emergency numbers on all phones.
- Don't let papers or trash accumulate.
- Unplug appliances when not in use.

It only takes a minute to check your home for fire hazards. Set a time to regularly check your home. You could be preventing a fire and possibly saving a life ... the life of your family.

For further information, contact the Agawam Fire Department at 786-2662.

Classified ads in the Advertiser News cost just \$10 per week for 30 words or less; however, we DO NOT take them over the telephone. Please bring them to our office at 14 Southwick Street (in the Crossroads Shoppes), Feeding Hills, or mail them (with payment) to P.O. Box 263, Feeding Hills, MA 01030.

* * *



PICTURED ABOVE WITH JOANNE BELTRANDI (third from the left) are the members of the committee which was responsible for her recently held retirement party: Rosemary Sandlin, treasurer of the Agawam Housing Authority; Robert Watson, Housing Authority chairman; James Harkins, vice-chairman; Dorothy Drewnowski, assistant treasurer and tenant representative; and Joann McGeoghan, clerk. Advertiser News photo by Kathy Shepard.



MUSICIANS LED BY RETIRED AHS Music Director Darcy Davis provided entertainment during the retirement get-together for Joanne Beltrandi. According to Davis, Beltrandi was a cheerleader at AHS during his first year of teaching at the school. Advertiser News photo by Kathy Shepard.

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4 Washington Avenue Extension, Agawam

Veterans' Corner...

Agawam: A Korean War Commemorative Community

by Ruth C. Bitzas
Veterans' Agent — 786-0400, Ext. 236/237

It was a pleasant surprise for me when I checked the Internet web site for the 50th anniversary commemoration period for the Korean War and found the list of towns in Massachusetts that have been approved by the Department of Defense. There we were, right at the top of the list.

The Agawam Veterans' Council and 50th Anniversary Committee will be planning events to honor our Korean War veterans over the three-year period from June 1, 2000 through November 11, 2003. Now that we are approved, we will be receiving the following:

- A certificate from the Secretary of Defense designating the Town of Agawam as an official "Korean War Commemorative Community."
- An official 50th anniversary of the Korean War commemorative flag.
- Authorization to use the 50th anniversary logo on our letterhead, newsletters, etc.
- Informational and educational materials pertaining to the Korean War, including maps, posters, fact sheets, and a historical chronology.
- Quarterly issues of the *Korean War DISPATCH* (a newsletter and source of official information on Korean War commemorative events).
- Official leadership lapel pins for the members of our Commemorative Committee.

The committee's first recognition of this special time will be on Memorial Day, when our Annual Poster and Essay Contest winners will be recognized for their posters and essays on the theme "Why The Korean War Is Not A Forgotten War."

This promises to be an exciting commemorative period, and the committee will do all possible to have Agawam do all it can to honor our Korean War veterans. I'm proud to say that I

am a Korean War veteran who will be retiring soon, but plan to be an active part of this committee and the Agawam Veterans' Council and Honor Roll Committee.

* * *

This week, we are continuing with the names of Agawam's Vietnam War veterans whose names will be included on our Honor Roll. Remember, it's a Home of Record Honor Roll; veterans need to have resided in Agawam when they entered the military. On this week's list are those veterans whose last names begin with the letter "C."

I leave you with the Korean War logo — "FREEDOM IS NOT FREE!"

AGAWAM VIETNAM VETERANS — "C"

CABA, EDWARD A., JR.
CAHILL, ROBERT G.
CALL, JAMES W.
CALVANESE, ANDREW A.
CAMMISA, RAYMOND J.
CAMYRE, ELBERT A.
CAMYRE, HAROLD A., JR.
CANATA, THOMAS J.
CANNARELLA, WESLEY J.
CAPITANO, FRANCIS E.
CARON, JOHN A.
CARON, NORMAN N., JR.
CARON, RICHARD W.
CARR, GEORGE W.
CARROLL, RONALD L., JR.
CARSEL, ROBERT A.
CASSIDY, MICHAEL L.
CAVANAUGH, JOSEPH L.
CEBULA, PAUL E.
CESAN, ERIC J.
CESAN, EARL J., JR.
CHAISSON, RICHARD L.

CHAMPIGNY, GERALD G.
CHAMPIGNY, LEODORE A.
CHAREST, LAWRENCE A.
CHAREST, ROBERT R.
CHICOINE, PAUL W.
CIMAROLI, JOSEPH H.
CIMMA, PAUL M.
CIMMA, PETER A.
CIMMA, STEPHEN J.
CLAUS, CARL V.
CLEARY, DAVID M.
COCKOROS, NICHOLAS P.
COFFEY, DAVID M.
COGSWELL, ROGER E.
COHEN, EDWARD A.

SEE VETS' CORNER - Page 12...

Great Spring Special 2000!



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- **Tuesday** — buy one, get one free on color enlargements from same 35mm negative (5x7, 8x10, 8x12, 11x14 - glossy only).
- **Wednesday** — buy one, get one free on 3x5 or 4x6 reprints from the same 35mm or 110mm negative (color, glossy paper only).
- **Friday** — bring in a roll of film to be processed (color 35mm, 110mm) and receive **\$1 off 12 exp., \$2 off 24 exp., \$3 off 36 exp.** (not to be combined with any offers or coupons / 1-hr. service only).

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MEMBER F.D.I.C.



On Saturday, April 8th...

WMECO & IBEW Help With Vets' Cemetery

Sixteen Western Massachusetts Electric Company (WMECO) employees and members of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local 455 donated their time, labor, and skill on Saturday, April 8th to provide electric service to the Massachusetts Veterans' Memorial Cemetery, which is currently under construction in Agawam. WMECO supported its employees' efforts by donating the materials and equipment necessary to complete the project.

Planning for the cemetery began in 1997 when Edward Squazza, a resident of Agawam, donated 61 acres of land off Main Street across from the junction of River Road to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for the express purpose of constructing a time-honored location that would become the final resting place for the state's veterans and eligible family members.

Construction of the cemetery began in July of 1999 when Gagliarducci Construction began work on land preparation and the installation of 1,550 pre-installed burial vaults, roadways, and a Columbarium that will include 950 in-wall niches. In January, RAC Builders of Agawam began work on the Administration building, the Committal Chapel, and a Maintenance facility.

With this construction work underway, the next step was to provide electric service to the cemetery," said Phyllis H. Magoon, General Manager of WMECO's Springfield District. "Many of the employees who will be working on the project are veterans themselves. Others have fathers, grandfathers, and other family members who were veterans. All of them are donating their time and energy in recognition of the major contribution veterans have made to this country to keep it safe and free," she added.

"Massachusetts Veterans' Services, Department of Veterans' Cemeteries sincerely thanks IBEW Local 455, WMECO, its staff, and volunteers for generously donating time, labor, skill, and materials to install the necessary equipment to operate the first veterans cemetery in Massachusetts," said Robert C. McKean, Director of State Veterans' Memorial Cemeteries and Operation Recognition.

He continued, "It is the generosity of individuals like those at WMECO who have assisted us in the construction of this honor to Massachusetts veterans and their families that will enable this project to go forward."

Phase I of the cemetery project will have six burial fields, with the first interments beginning at the end of November 2000, and dedication of the cemetery expected to occur in May 2001. Expansion of the cemetery will take place over the next 35 years and a capacity of 40,000 burial sites.

WMECO serves approximately 200,000 customers in 59 communities throughout Western Massachusetts, seven of which are in the Springfield District, including the City of Agawam. More information about WMECO and the services it offers its customers and the community is available on its web site at www.wmeco.com.



IN TOP PHOTO: WMECO employees and members of IBEW Local 455 who donated their time, labor, and skill to provide electric service to the Massachusetts Veterans' Memorial Cemetery currently under construction in Agawam. **IN PHOTO BELOW:** Robert C. McKean, Director of State Veterans' Memorial Cemeteries and Operation Recognition; Phyllis H. Magoon, General Manager, Springfield District (WMECO); Agawam Mayor Richard Cohen; and Kerry J. Kuhlman, President and Chief Operating Officer, WMECO.



VETS' CORNER - from Page 11...

COLLINS, GEORGE H.
COLLINS, JOHN F.
CONNELL, PAUL E.
* CONNELLY, EDWARD W., JR.
CONNOR, MICHAEL F.
CONNOR, MICHAEL J.
CONNOR, RICHARD P.
CONNOR, ROGER R.
COOLEY, CHARLES G.
CORCORAN, MICHAEL J.
CORLEY, PATRICIA L.
COSTA, DAVID M.
COWLES, JOHN F.
CRAIG, JAMES A.
CRAIG, CYNTHIA A.
CRANE, JOHN J.
CREAMER, DONALD M.
CREAN, JAMES A.
CREMONTI, RAYMOND B.
CROSS, ROBERT L.
CROUGH, MARK F.
CROWLEY, EARL R.
(* Died while in service.)

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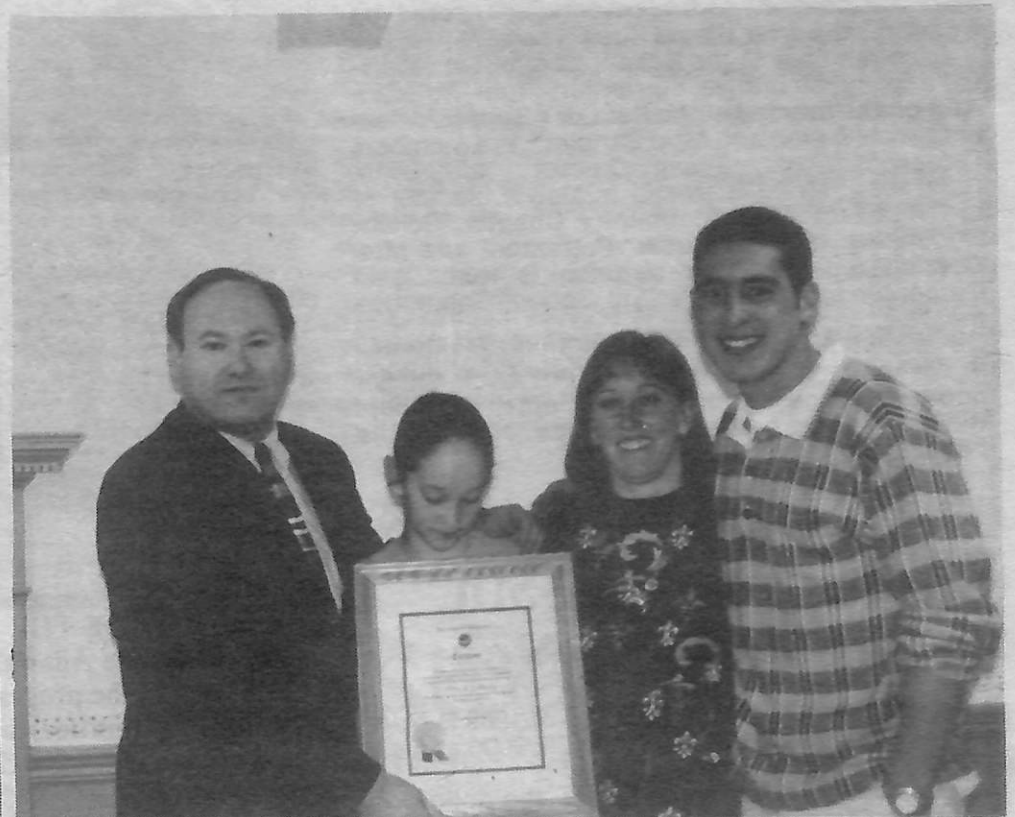


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Families



AT THE ANNUAL FAMILY POT LUCK SUPPER hosted by Agawam chapter of AFS, Mayor Richard Cohen presented two local families with plaques recognizing and thanking them for their participation in the AFS Program at AHS. **IN LEFT PHOTO:** Cohen with exchange student Elena Cattoni (Italy) and her host family, the Garvins of Feeding Hills (Lou, Mary Alice, and little Anthony). **IN RIGHT PHOTO:** Cohen with host family Nicole and Deb Struck of Agawam and exchange student Marcelo Gonzalez (Bolivia). Advertiser News photos by Kathy Shepard.

* * * * *

At The Captain Leonard House...

Agawam AFS Holds Family Pot Luck Supper

The Agawam Chapter of American Intercultural Programs (AFS) held its Annual Family Pot Luck Supper in March at the Captain Charles Leonard House.

Invited and honored guests, along with Agawam AFS Community Chapter members, enjoyed an evening of good food and camaraderie. For the past 25 years, Agawam AFS, through its network of host families in the community, has sponsored teenagers from around the world as seniors at Agawam High School.

During the 1999-2000 school year, Agawam AFS is sponsoring Elena Cattoni from Italy and Marcelo Gonzalez from Bolivia at the High School. Marcelo's host parents, Craig & Debbie Struck of Agawam, and Elena's host parents, Lou & Mary Alice Garvin of Feeding Hills, were presented framed citations from Mayor Richard Cohen from the Town of Agawam to thank them for opening their homes and serving as host families to Marcelo and Elena.

Cohen praised both host families for their participation in the Agawam AFS Program. As chairman of the School Committee, Cohen noted that the AFS Program at the High School continues to be an important aspect of the educational process at the school. Cohen recalled his involvement in the AFS Program during his days as a student at Longmeadow High School many years ago, adding, "I found out how worthwhile and valuable AFS can be to a school, and I am elated that AFS is so strong at Agawam High School."

As has been a tradition at the Family Pot Luck Supper in recent years, Agawam AFS handed out several "Lifetime Membership" plaques to deserving individuals in the community who have demonstrated outstanding commitment and service to Agawam AFS.

Accepting a "Lifetime Membership" plaque was long-time School Committee member Rosemary Sandlin. School Committee member Roberta Doering, who was out of town, received her award at the School Committee's March 25th meeting from AFS Community Chapter member David Carpenter. Mrs. Doering was on the School Committee during the 1975 school year when AFS came to Agawam High School, and has continued her strong support for Agawam AFS year-in and year-out.

Because of work obligations, Eddie & Bev Santaniello, owners of Bruno's Pizza in Feeding Hills, received their "Lifetime Membership" plaque later on in the evening after being visited by David

SEE AFS - Page 14...

PLEASE PICK UP YOUR OLD PHOTOS: If you've brought photos to our office for wedding announcements, scouting events, athletic teams, etc., we encourage you to pick them up during the month of April. As of April 30th, we will be disposing of all unclaimed photographs.

* * * * *

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AFS - from Page 13...

Carpenter, fellow Agawam AFS Chapter member Pat Asta-Ferrero, and Mayor Cohen at the pizzeria. The Santaniellos and the staff at Bruno's Pizzeria have assisted at several events sponsored by Agawam AFS over the past few years.

Each member of the School Committee received a commemorative sweatshirt from Agawam AFS on the evening of the Pot Luck Supper. Attending with Cohen and Mrs. Sandlin were members Teresa Kozloski, Susan Dawson, and Linda Galarneau. Mrs. Galarneau is also a member of the Agawam AFS Community Chapter. School Committee member Susan Pettazzoni and Mrs. Doering received their sweatshirts from David Carpenter at the March 25th School Committee meeting.

Agawam AFS wishes to thank all those involved in making the Annual Family Pot Luck Supper another success, including chapter members Billie Ann Carpenter and Linda Nelson, the hostesses for the evening.

AHS's Class Of 1965 Announces 35th Reunion For Nov.

The Agawam High School class of 1965 is planning a 35th reunion on November 25, 2000 at Alexander's in Feeding Hills.

The committee is looking for the following class members:

Emily (Guidi) Attardi, Kenneth Bartschi, Francis Belisle, Patricia (Kehr) Beauchene, Martin Blustine, Nancy (Meehan) Catelotti, Sharon Chandler, Nancy Coupas, Joan (Cooper) Dearborn, Richard Della Giustina, Ruth (Connor) Dempsey, William Desmond, Diane (Collins) Ferioli, Howard Gill, Jack Grant, Charlie Guyotte, Paul Jenks.

Aurora Kusick, Gary Kwader, Thomas Manville, Patricia (Kleh) McMahon, James Mitchell, David Moreno, Glenn Nichols, Linda Paige, Joseph Paquin, David Pond, Daniel Pugh, Russ Ramah, Charlene Rankin, Robert St. Cyr, Kenneth St. Peter, Robert Shugda, Marie Southard, Gary Tease, Jo Ann Templeman, Joyce Thomas, Michael Thorpe, Faith Wheeler, and Terry Wheeler.

If you have any information regarding the whereabouts of these 1965 classmates, contact the committee at <https://hometown.aol.com/agawam1965> or Deborah Leclerc DePalma at 786-3604.

On Saturday, April 15th...

"Mystery Movie" To Be Sponsored By Agawam Girl Scouts

Just a reminder for all Girl Scouts to bring along their Mom or Dad to the Agawam Cinemas at 11:00 a.m. this Saturday, April 15th.

This is our "Mystery Movie" Annual Giving Fundraiser. In one cinema, we will be showing a G-rated movie for the younger girls; the other cinema will be showing another film that will not be rated higher than PG-13.

If you have a couple of spare hours, we would love to see you attend this fun event with your daughters. General admission will be \$4.

* * *

*Please remember to
patronize your local
businesses ... AAN!!!*

* * *



MEMBERS OF THE AGAWAM SCHOOL COMMITTEE receive commemorative sweatshirts from the Agawam Chapter of American Intercultural Programs (AFS) to celebrate the 25th year of the program at Agawam High School. From left to right: Mayor Richard Cohen (School Committee chairman), Susan Dawson, Rosemary Sandlin (School Committee vice-chairwoman), Linda Galarneau, and Teresa Kozloski. Advertiser News photo by Kathy Shepard.



EDDIE SANTANIELLO (center), owner of Bruno's Pizza in Feeding Hills, received a "Lifetime Member" award for his support of the Agawam Chapter of American Intercultural Programs (AFS). Mayor Richard Cohen (left), chairman of the School Committee, and David Carpenter (right), a long-time Agawam AFS board member, recently paid a visit to the popular pizzeria to make the presentation. Advertiser News photo by Kathy Shepard.

American Legion & Auxiliary 185 To Host "Easter Egg Hunt"

To celebrate "National Children and Youth Month" for the American Legion, Wilson-Thompson American Legion Post 185 and Auxiliary Unit 185 will host an Easter Egg Hunt on Sunday, April 16th, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Post home on Springfield Street.

This event is open to children up to age 12. It will include an egg hunt, egg coloring, and a very special visit from the Easter Bunny on this day.

For further information, call the Legion at 786-4806.

Comm. Grange 382 To Hold Indoor Tag And Bake Sale

Community Grange No. 382 of Feeding Hills will hold an indoor tag and bake sale on Saturday, April 29th from 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

The Grange Hall is located at 47 North West Street. Our junk could be your treasures!

Watch for our Polish Supper to be held in May.

*You turn our pages for all the
hometown news ... AAN!!!*

* * *

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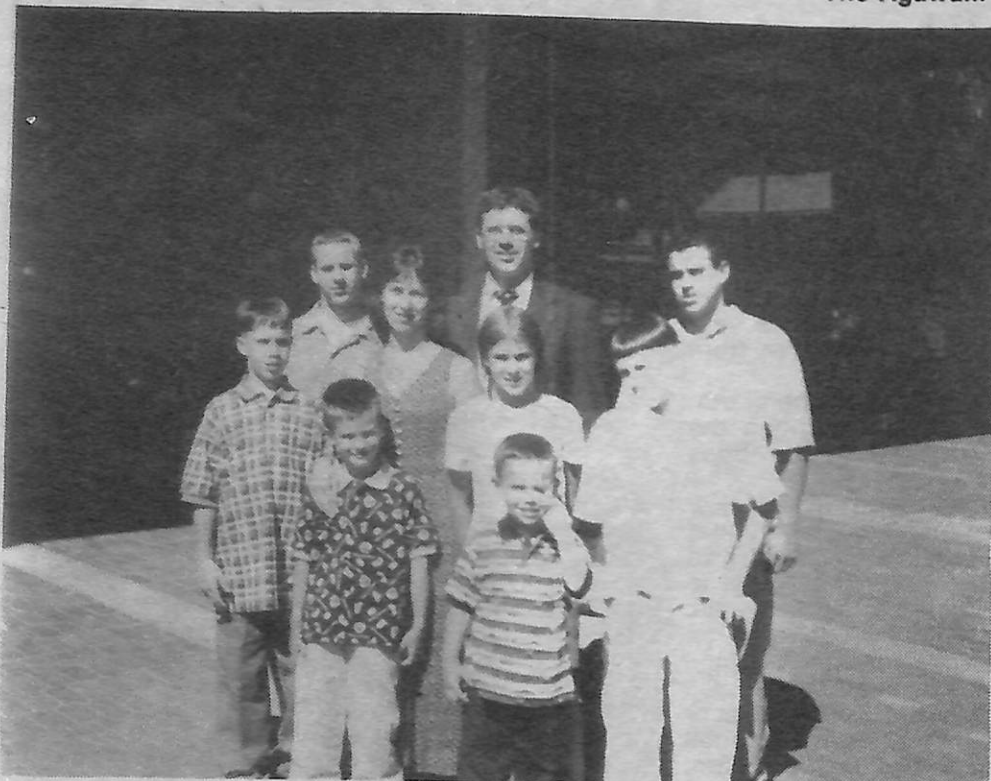
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JEFFREY AND MARLENE ROBERTS of Feeding Hills with their children: Brian, Austin, and Tyler Roberts, and Michael, Steve, Andrew, and Jennifer Turner.

Jeffrey And Marlene Roberts Celebrate Adoption

Jeffrey and Marlene Roberts of Feeding Hills would like to announce the adoption of Brian, Austin, and Tyler Roberts. Marlene became their adoptive mother on July 12, 1999.

Following the adoption ceremony in Springfield, family members from Canada joined the Roberts and Turners for a trip to Six Flags, New Jersey. Upon arriving home, several friends and family members celebrated this special occasion at their home.

Brian, Austin, and Taylor were welcomed by their three brothers, Michael, Steve, and Andrew Turner, and their sister, Jennifer Turner.

Jeff and Marlene would like to extend their warmest and sincere thanks to all the wonderful family members and friends who were a part of this very special occasion. This day will always be a part of their fondest memories.

Brian, Austin, & Tyler
*Life is a path we travel with many twists and turns.
 Unravelling moments of joy, sorrow, and unpredictability
 Out of the sorrow we find hope
 And from the joy we find life again
 And from the unpredictability we find security, love, and a new beginning.
 You need not dwell on past sorrows, rather
 Carry your love forward in your hearts;
 for that eternal flame will always burn
 deep in your hearts, then, now and always.
 Eternal love never dies.
 You are the joy of my life, my reason for
 living, laughing and I promise to care for
 you and be a loving mother to you for the
 rest of my life.
 A promise I make with complete happiness
 and dedication. Our family is now complete.
 All nine of us will thrive and grow
 together as a complete family. Nothing
 in the world could make me happier.
 July 12, 1999 was the beginning of the rest
 of our lives together.*

Let's Begin This Journey! Love, Mom

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ANDREA BALBONI

Andrea Balboni Engaged To Wed Dennis Giobbe

Andrea Balboni and Dennis Giobbe are engaged to be married. The couple announced their engagement while vacationing with friends in the Philippines.

Andrea is the daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Balboni of Sherwood Avenue in West Springfield. She is the granddaughter of Mrs. Carlo Balboni of Agawam and the late Mr. Balboni.

The future bride graduated from Mount Holyoke College in South Hadley. She studied at the University of Rome in Italy for her junior year of college abroad. Having traveled extensively in Europe and Asia, she is now completing a teaching assignment in Japan.

Her fiancé is the son of Mr. & Mrs. Mario Giobbe of Ontario, Canada. He graduated from Ryerson University in Canada and pursued graduate studies at Pratt Institute in New York. He is an architect in New York City.

The couple plans to be married in late summer at Lake Garda in northern Italy. They will honeymoon in Venice, Italy.

Upon returning to the United States, they will reside in Manhattan, New York.

* * *

Our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon; however, we appreciate any articles, press releases, etc., that can be brought in on Mondays. (Our office will be open on Monday, April 17th — Patriots' Day.)

* * *

On Thursday, April 27th...

Jr. Women's Club To Have Booth At AHS's EARTH DAY FAIR

An exciting new event is coming to the Agawam High School - EARTH DAY FAIR 2000. Look for the Junior Women's Club booth at the fair to be held at the Agawam High School on April 27th from 6:00-9:00 p.m.

What will the club be exhibiting? At the booth, many items the club has recycled through the year will be on display and what the club does with them will be explained.

Pansies and an afghan will be raffled off. For every recyclable item in a particular category that you bring in, the Junior Women's Club will give you one raffle ticket per category. The option to purchase raffle tickets will also be available. What the club is looking for is as follows:

To be entitled to a raffle ticket in each category, the following minimum criteria must be met: six soda tabs or one used puzzle (over 300 pieces); or one toner cartridge; or six labels from Campbell Soups; or one garden plant; or two skeins of yarn; or six used stamps; or six greeting card fronts.

For example, if you bring in one or more garden plants and six or more soda tabs, you will be entitled to two raffle tickets. If you bring in 12 soda tabs, you are entitled to one raffle ticket.

The Club will be giving away free primroses on a first-come, first-served basis.

You will be amazed at what such little items can purchase for children overseas and at home. Please start collecting today.

Remember, we are the only ones who can keep this good EARTH beautiful. Let's not waste one precious resource.

On Saturday, April 29th...

Spring Fling Dance To Be Sponsored By Operation Friendship

Operation Friendship, an international youth cultural exchange program, is conducting its first annual Spring Fling Dance on Saturday, April 29th at the Springfield Turnverein on 176 Garden Street, Feeding Hills.

Music will be provided by D.J. Dick and featured music will be from the 50's, 60's, 70's, 80's, and 90's. Tickets are \$10 each and are available only in advance.

They may be purchased by calling Leslie at 786-3785 or they are available at Alvin's Sandwich Shop on 340 Walnut Street Extension, Agawam. Hors d'oeuvres are included in the price of a ticket. There will be raffle tickets also available.

Operation Friendship is a non-profit organization founded in 1964. Its purpose is to encourage international friendship and understanding among youth. All monies raised are used to host a group of European youths and, on alternate years, for local youth to travel to a participating European country. This is a travel year for our youth. They will be traveling to Europe during July 2000.



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Got A Hair, Nail, Or Beauty Problem? Send Us A Note, And We Will Answer It In Our Column...

Question: I am so confused with ingredients that are listed on my products. I can hardly pronounce them and I certainly don't know what they mean ... HELP!

Answer: First of all, when you look at product ingredients remember that the first one listed is the most product in the bottle and the last is least. For the next few weeks, I will list ingredients that are used often in beauty products and what they mean. Cut out these articles and save them for further reference.

* **Sodium Lauryl (or laureth) sulfate:** a detergent cleanser, effective but drying. Other similar ingredients are:

- * tea-lauryl sulfate
- * cocamide DEA
- * ammonium lauryl (or laureth) sulfate
- * magnesium laureth sulfate
- * sodium C 14-16 olefin sulfate
- * triethanolamine

* **Polyethylene glycol (PEG)** gives an emollient or cream feel to a product like a cleanser or lotion. Other similar ingredients are:

- * polysorbates
- * propylene glycol
- * polypropylene glycol
- * butylene glycol
- * hexylene glycol
- * isopropyl myristate - can clog pores

* **Methylparaben** is a preservative found in most cosmetics to guard against bacteria, fungus, yeast, and mold. People with very sensitive skin may have a reaction. Other parabens are:

- * propylparaben
- * ethylparaben
- * butylparaben

Other irritating preservatives that may cause concern are:

- * imidazolidinyl urea
- * DHA, BHT, BHA, or EDTAs
- * quaternium 1-15

* **Glycerin** attracts and binds water to the skin.

Other water binders are:

- * propylene glycol
- * polypropylene glycol
- * butylene glycol
- * hexylene glycol
- * caprylic/capric/lauric triglycerides
- * cyclomethicone/dimethicone triglycerides
- * fatty acids
- * hyaluronic acid (a protein)
- * sodium PCA (found in all living cells)
- * collagen (a protein)
- * ceramide
- * Elastin (a protein)
- * lecithin (found naturally in eggs, milk, sunflower seeds, soybeans, and some vegetables)

A thought for a smile: The smell of the earth as you prepare for spring planting.

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JEFFREY PICKETT

Jeffrey Pickett Graduates From Marine Corps Training

Jeffrey Pickett, the son of Kathi & David Pickett of Feeding Hills, graduated Marine Corps Recruit Training at Parris Island, South Carolina on February 25th as a Private First Class.

Pickett qualified as an Expert Marksman in the rifle range. He is currently attending the School of Infantry, Camp Geiger, North Carolina, specializing in anti-tank warfare.

He will be attached to the 2nd Marine Division, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, which is scheduled for a Mediterranean deployment in November.

Agawam Jr. Women's Club To Hold Next Mtg. On April 18th

The Agawam Junior Women's Club will hold its monthly meeting on April 18th at 7:00 p.m. at the Captain Charles Leonard House.

This month's meeting is a Pampered Chef party, a demonstration of kitchen essential items to make cooking easy. The public is welcome to attend.

The demonstration will feature the preparing of two dishes and a raffle. Items will be available to be purchased through the Pampered Chef catalog.

The Club's activities enrich the quality of life in our community through a variety of educational, social, and cultural projects and programs. Come to have fun, meet new friends, and get involved.

For more information, call Theresa Conklin at 786-6515. The Club meets the third Tuesday of every month at the Leonard House.

The Agawam Junior Women's Club is a member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, Junior Membership.

Agawam Residents Undergo Army Basic Training In Georgia

Army National Guard Pfc. John N. Weinle IV, Pfc. William R. Pierson, and Pfc. Ryan D. Gamache have arrived at Fort Benning, Columbus, Georgia, to complete basic military training.

During the training, the soldiers will receive instruction in drill and ceremonies, map reading, tactics, military customs and courtesies, physical fitness, first aid, and Army history and traditions.

Weinle is the son of John N. and Phyllis A. Weinle of 42 Red Fox Drive, Feeding Hills. He is a 1999 graduate of Agawam High School. Pierson, also a 1999 graduate of AHS, is the son of Tammy L. and Gregg A. Pierson of 63 Kenenoha Ave., Agawam.

Gamache is the son of James and Linda C. Gamache of 120 Clover Hill Drive, Feeding Hills.



NICHOLAS PENNA

Nicholas Penna Completes Basic Military Training

Nicholas Penna has successfully completed basic training at Fort Jackson in South Carolina. Graduation was held at Fort Jackson on March 23rd.

He is now stationed at Fort Lee in Virginia, where he is completing his AIT (Advanced Individual Training) as an Automated Logistics Specialist.

Penna is the son of Diane Penna of Agawam and Stephen Penna of Springfield. His proud grandparents are Caroline Kamay of Enfield, Connecticut, and Vincenzo & Rosemarie Penna of Springfield.

Penna attended Agawam High School.

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Open For The Season... Happy Easter!!!

Join The
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On

Saturday, April 22nd

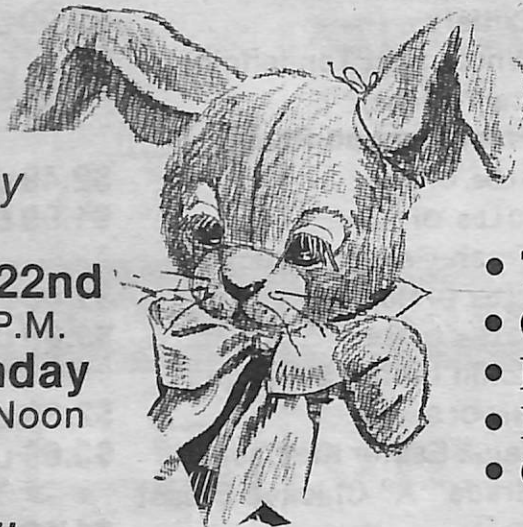
9:00 A.M. To 5:00 P.M.

And Easter Sunday

9:00 A.M. To 12:00 Noon

For Photos

And Raffles...



EASTER LILIES

- Tulips
- Oriental Lilies
- Pansy Planters
- Daffodils
- Chrysanthemums

- Flowering Trees
Bradford Pear
Weeping Cherry
Plus Others

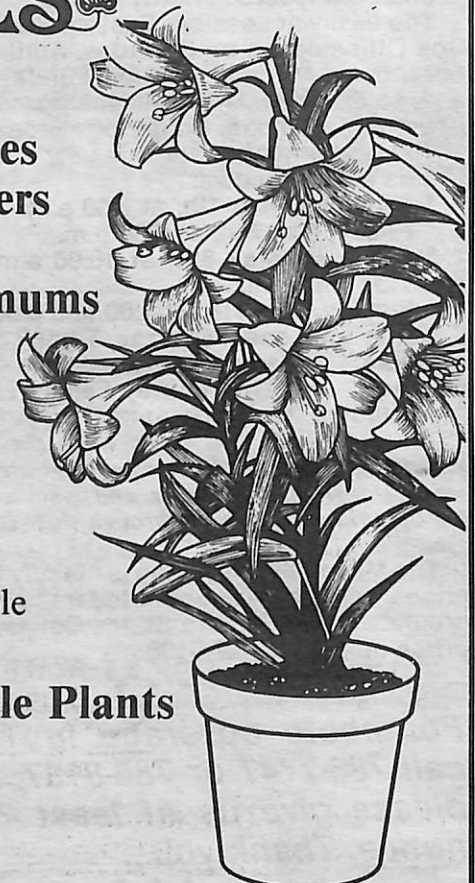
- Rhododendrons
- Arborvitaes
- Azaleas
- Junipers
- Barberries

- Top Soil
- Peat Moss
- Cow Manure
- Potting Soil

- Hanging Plants & Hanging Bags
Hundreds To Choose From

- Trees
Red Maple
Ash
Sugar Maple

- Cold Vegetable Plants
Cabbage
Broccoli
Cauliflower
Lettuce



Lioness Donation



JOANN MCGEOGHAN (right) of the Agawam Lioness Club presents a donation on behalf of the club to Suzanne Herlihy, volunteer coordinator of the Ronald McDonald House of Springfield. Advertiser News photo by Kathy Shepard.

At The Eastern States Coliseum...

Melha Shrine Circus To Return For 46th Consecutive Year

A whistle blows and a deep voice booms from the darkness... "Ladies and gentlemen, children of all ages, welcome to the New Edition of the Melha Shrine Circus!" This is the 46th consecutive year for the Melha Circus, which is produced by Hamid Circus Royale.

On opening night, Thursday, May 4th, there will be a Shrine Parade which will step off at 6:00 p.m. from the Century Shopping Plaza, West Springfield, and then proceed down Memorial Avenue to the Eastern States Coliseum. Shrine Circus binoculars will be given out to the first 4,000 children (12 years of age and under) who attend the circus on Thursday night, May 4th.

The Melha Clowns will appear at all performances of the circus. The Melha Clown Unit has appeared on television, during local telethons, and at fundraisers throughout the area, and is seen at many local charity events.

The easily-accessible Eastern States Coliseum Box Office opens on Saturday, April 22nd, and is open daily, Monday through Sunday, from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. However, the box office will be open until 9:00 p.m. on performance nights.

The performances for this year's Melha Shrine Circus are as follows:

- * Thursday, May 4th, at 7:00 p.m.
- * Friday, May 5th, at 7:30 p.m.
- * Saturday, May 6th, at 10:00 a.m., 2:30 p.m., and 7:30 p.m.; and...
- * Sunday, May 7th, at 1:00 and 6:00 p.m.

Come and see "Blaszak Tiger," "The Flying Condors," "Maritza," "Arneberg's Sensational Canines," and "The Murray Family Elephants."

According to author/humorist Art Buchwald, "There are really two times when the circus means something to people. Once when they are children and see it through their own eyes, and again when they have the opportunity to see it through their own children's eyes."

The Melha Shrine Circus is "family fun at family prices," and there is unlimited free parking on the grounds of the Eastern States Coliseum. The box office number is 787-0198.

For photo coverage in The AAN, call 786-7747 or 786-8137; however, please give us at least 72 hours' notice. Thank you...

Easter Surprises Await Shoppers At The Trading Post

Let's go Easter shopping!! The Easter Bunny has many surprises waiting for you at the Trading Post - Easter Eggs, Easter Bunnies, outfits for Mom and for the children.

If you have never experienced the fun of browsing at the Trading Post, you will be pleased and surprised at the assortment and range of our inventory - from shoes to toys - from the latest styles in women's wear to casual outfits for ages 0 to ?

Our prices, too, will please you as will our "Weekly SCOOP."

We're easy to find at the corner of Main & Elm St. at the Agawam Baptist Church.

ADVERTISER NEWS

Ag. Senior Center's Weekly Lunch Menu

Monday, April 17th: Chicken chow mein, fluffy white rice, mixed vegetables, whole wheat bread, apple.

Tuesday, April 18th: Onion soup, pizza, tossed salad, brownies.

Wednesday, April 19th: Meatloaf with gravy, baked potato, broccoli, rye bread, pineapple chunks.

Thursday, April 20th: Baked chicken breast, baked potato, green beans, whole wheat bread, butterscotch pudding.

Friday, April 21st: Baked fish, cheese, baked potato, spinach, oatmeal bread, applesauce.

AGAWAM PUBLIC MARKET

The Staff Of Agawam Public Market Wishes You A Happy Easter Holiday!

Order Early For The Easter Holiday!!!

Closed All Day Sunday, April 23rd (Easter Sunday)

USDA CHOICE

Jordan Skinless & Shankless Hams	
Whole	\$1.89 Lb.
Butt Half	\$1.89 Lb.
Shank Half	\$2.39 Lb.
Center Slices	\$2.99 Lb.

Flavorite Boneless Half Hams	
Hams	\$1.99 Lb.
Boneless Spoon Roast	\$2.99 Lb.
Bone-In Standing Rib Roast	\$5.69 Lb.
Boneless Rib Eye Roast	\$6.69 Lb.
Boneless Sirloin Steak	\$3.99 Lb.
Boneless Rib Eye Steak	\$6.69 Lb.
Boneless Center Cut Pork Roast	\$2.89 Lb.
Boneless Center Cut Pork Cutlets	\$2.99 Lb.
Whole Butt Tenderloin (Cut To Order)	\$5.99
Fresh Ground Round	
5 Lbs. Or More	\$2.49 Lb.
10 Lbs. Or More	\$1.99 Lb.
Fresh Ground Chuck	
5 Lbs. Or More	\$1.69 Lb.
10 Lbs. Or More	\$1.39 Lb.
Zonin Italian Sausage (Hot Or Sweet)	
Janik Easter Kielbasa	\$2.69 Lb.
Grade "A" Chicken Breast	
Whole	\$1.19 Lb.
Split	\$1.39 Lb.

DAIRY & FROZEN

Hood 1% Low Fat Milk (Gallon)	\$2.19
Grade "A" Jumbo White Eggs (Dozen)	99¢



PRODUCE

Bananas	49¢ Lb.
Cantaloupes	99¢ Each
California Navel Oranges (Jumbo Size)	
	49¢ Each
Washington State Red Delicious Apples	
	69¢ Lb.
Long Green Celery (Bunch)	99¢
Broccoli (Bunch)	99¢
Hot House Tomatoes	\$1.39 Lb.
Cello Pak Mushrooms (Cello Pkg.)	\$1.39

SEAFOOD

Fresh Scrod Fillet	\$4.99 Lb.
Fresh Sea Scallops (Large Size)	\$7.99 Lb.
Frozen Cooked Shrimp (31-40 Count)	\$7.99 Lb.

DELI

Land O' Lakes White American Cheese	
	\$3.69 Lb.
Austrian Alps Imported Swiss Cheese	
	\$2.99 Lb.
Russer German Bologna	\$1.69 Lb.
Krakus Imported Ham	\$3.99 Lb.
Russer Low-Salt Ham	\$3.49 Lb.
Margherita Prosciutto	\$5.99 Lb.
Thumann's Gourmet Turkey Breast	
	\$4.99 Lb.
Fresh Seafood Salad	\$3.99 Lb.

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HOLY WEEK at ST. DAVID'S



PALM SUNDAY - APRIL 16

8:00 a.m. - Eucharist with Palms

10:00 a.m. - Palm Procession and Eucharist

MONDAY OF HOLY WEEK - APRIL 17

6:45 p.m. - Evening Prayer

7:00 p.m. - Prayer Meeting

TUESDAY OF HOLY WEEK - APRIL 18

7:00 p.m. - An Order for Evening

WEDNESDAY OF HOLY WEEK - APRIL 19

7:00 p.m. - Tenebrae Service & Prayers for Healing

MAUNDY THURSDAY - APRIL 20

5:30 p.m. - Seder Supper

7:00 p.m. - Holy Eucharist, Foot Washing, Stripping of the Altar

GOOD FRIDAY - APRIL 21

10 a.m. - Children's Service

12:15 p.m. - Ecumenical Service

7:00 p.m. - Good Friday Office & Stations of the Cross

HOLY SATURDAY - APRIL 22

11:00 a.m. - Caregivers' Eucharist

5:00 p.m. - Children's Eucharist w/Youth Music Ministers

EASTER SUNDAY - APRIL 23

8:00 a.m. - Festival Eucharist

10:00 a.m. - Festival Eucharist w/Special Music Ministers

JOIN US THIS WEEK AS WE WAIT FOR HIS RETURN

St. David's Episcopal Church

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Worship Services: Saturday 5 pm & Sunday 8 am & 10 am
Bible in Life Classes & Nursery Care: Saturday 5 pm & Sunday 10 am
The Reverend Len Cowan & The Reverend Scott Seabury

"RECONCILING AND TRANSFORMING LIVES IN JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD"

Church News

Calendar From

Ag. Congregational

Palm Sunday will be observed this week at the Agawam Congregational Church (745 Main Street, Agawam), with a service at 10:30 a.m. and Church School at 9:00 a.m.

Members of the Confirmation Class will meet at 9:00 a.m. to practice the hand chimes for their participation in the Prelude for Morning Worship. They will be joined by their Sponsors, who will introduce them in the service, after which the Pastor, Rev. Eric Bascom, will present each with a new Bible.

Confirmants will be guests of honor at the coffee hour which follows the service in Bryan Hall, where pictures will be taken and refreshments enjoyed.

Dr. Bascom will preach on the Palm Sunday theme, "The Race That Is Set Before Us."

On Maundy Thursday, April 20th, there will be a worship service at 7:00 p.m., during which members of the Confirmation Class will be confirmed as full members of the church. They will assist the Deacons in serving Holy Communion in a setting reminiscent of Jesus' Last Supper with his disciples in the Upper Room, just before his arrest and crucifixion.

They will then help in the Tenebrae service, which is a re-enactment of the abandonment of Jesus to his enemies and the gathering of the dark forces which crucified him. Gradually, as Jesus is deserted by his friends, and narrators tell of his crucifixion and death, the lights in the Sanctuary and all of its candles will be extinguished.

The service will end with the silent withdrawal of worshippers from the dark church.

There will be three services on Easter, April 23rd. At 5:30 a.m., we will join other Agawam churches for a Sunrise Service on the hill in front of Valley Community Church in Feeding Hills, and share in the breakfast following at Feeding Hills Congregational Church. This will be a *free will offering* breakfast.

At 9:00 and 11:00 a.m., nearly identical services will be held in our home Sanctuary. We have been promised that our pipe organ (under restoration and repair since last fall) will be in place for the celebration of the Resurrection.

Men are invited to join the Men's Prayer Time, which meets at 7:45 a.m. each Tuesday morning.

We read from the devotional guide "Upper Room" for meditation and discussion, with time for coffee and fellowship.

Mark your calendars! The Friendship Committee is sponsoring a Tag Sale on Saturday, May 6th, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Tables are \$10 each. Call 786-7111 to reserve yours today.

For more information concerning any of our events, please call the church office at 786-7111.



Reflections...

submitted by
Rev. Peter Monahan
Pastor of the New Life
Christian Church,
Suffield, CT
(413) 789-1377 or
toll free (877) 643-9801

The Costly Triumph...

On the first Palm Sunday, it must have seemed that Isaiah's prophecy, pronounced 700 years before Jesus was ever born, had come true. Before Me every knee shall bow; by Me every tongue will swear. They will say of Me, "In the Lord alone are righteousness and strength." In the Lord all the descendants of Israel will be found righteous and exult. As Jesus approached Jerusalem that first Palm Sunday, the crowds greeted Him with shouts of joy. They took palm branches and went out to meet Him, shouting "Hosanna!" "Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Blessed is the King of Israel!"

But the tide turned quickly for Jesus. It had to. Another of Isaiah's prophecies was yet to be fulfilled. Who had believed our message, and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed? He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering. Like one from whom men hide their faces He was despised, and we esteemed Him not. Surely He took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered Him stricken by God, smitten by Him, and afflicted. But He was pierced for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon Him.

Jesus went from being the hero of the day to being despised, in a heartbeat. No doubt His followers would become confused, dismayed, and disillusioned. They had thought that Jesus' reception on that first Palm Sunday foreshadowed an easy ascent to triumph. They were right about the triumph, but wrong about the cost. It would be a very costly triumph, indeed. Jesus knew all along that the road to His triumph passed through the valley of tragedy.

Jesus was wise enough to prepare Himself for His ensuing ordeal with prayer. He did not want, any more than anybody would want, to endure the suffering He knew was coming. "Father," He said, "everything is possible for You. Take this cup from Me." But for our sake, Jesus was willing to suffer. Isaiah had said of Jesus, yet it was the

Lord's will to crush Him and cause Him to suffer, and though the Lord makes His life a guilt offering, He will see His offspring and prolong His days, and the will of the Lord will prosper in His hand. After the suffering of His soul, He will see the light of life and be satisfied; by His knowledge My righteous servant will justify many, and He will bear their iniquities. Jesus said, "Yet not what I will, but what You will."

Jesus' Palm Sunday victory spiraled into apparent and total defeat. First, His followers deserted Him. Then everyone deserted Him and fled. Jesus must have been disappointed.

Then, the crowds who had hailed Him, whom anybody might have expected to stand by Him, turned against Him. Now it was the custom at the Feast to release a prisoner whom the people requested. A man called Barabbas was in prison with the insurrectionists who had committed murder in the uprising. The crowd came up and asked Pilate to do for them what he usually did. Even though the religious leaders had schemed against Jesus and turned Him over to Pilate on trumped-up charges, now was the chance for the adoring crowd to ask for His release. "Do you want me to release you the king of the Jews?" asked Pilate, knowing it was out of envy that the chief priests had handed Jesus over to him. But the chief priests had stirred up the crowd to have Pilate release Barabbas instead. "What should I do, then, with the one you call the king of the Jews?" Pilate asked them. "Crucify Him!" they shouted. "Why? What crime has He committed?" asked Pilate. But they shouted all the louder, "Crucify Him!"

Finally, because Jesus bore the sins of the world upon Himself, even God the Father turned away. Perfect holiness and utter sinfulness cannot be in the same room together. Jesus was truly alone when He died on the cross for our sins. On the cross, Jesus cried out, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?"

From the vantage point of this side of the cross, it may be easy for some people not to appreciate the horror of what Jesus went through for us. He suffered the ultimate pain in order to give each of us the ultimate gain. Jesus, Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made Himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, and being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to death — even death on a cross! Therefore God exalted Him to the highest place and gave Him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the father.

Rev. Peter Monahan's "Reflections..." is a regular feature of the ADVERTISER NEWS...

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ALL OF US LIKE SHEEP HAVE GONE ASTRAY
EACH OF US HAS TURNED TO HIS OWN WAY
BUT THE LORD HAS MADE THE SIN OF ALL TO
FALL ON HIM
DESPISED, HE WAS REJECTED
TO DEATH SUBJECTED

Chorus:

INSTEAD OF ME
HE TOOK THE BLAME, THE MISERY
INSTEAD OF ME
HE SUFFERED SILENT AGONY
AND IN THAT FINAL BREATH
HE DIED ALONE THE SINNER'S DEATH
INSTEAD OF ME

WILLINGLY HE LAID HIS GLORY DOWN
TRADED WEALTH TO WEAR A PIERCING CROWN
TIL THE FATHER'S ONE DEMAND HE MET AT
CALVARY

ALONE, STRIPPED OF HIS MAJESTY
HE CRIED, "THOU HAS FORSAKEN ME"

(Repeat Chorus Twice)

INSTEAD OF ME

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Church News - continued...**News And Notes From F.H. Congregational**

You are welcome to join with us at the Feeding Hills Congregational Church, which is located at 21 N. Westfield Street in Feeding Hills. Our Sunday morning service of worship begins at 10:00 a.m. and will include the distribution of palms in celebration of Palm Sunday.

Rev. Donaldson's sermon is entitled "Hooray for God?" The Bible reading is Mark 11:1-11. Ushers will be Sue Boisvert and Chris Chapman. Chris Kretschmar and Jeff Chapman will be our Acolytes. Linda Edelman will be hosting our Social Hour following worship.

Children, who are invited to attend worship with adults, will be dismissed for Sunday School at a designated time for a special activity. Nursery care will be provided for the very young.

On Maundy Thursday, April 20th, all are invited to a Service of Tenebrae commemorating the Crucifixion by the extinguishing of candles. The service, which will begin in the sanctuary at 6:30 p.m., will be followed by a Seder Supper in Griswold Hall.

On Easter morning, April 23rd, we will meet with members of various churches at Valley Community Church for a Sunrise Service at 5:30 a.m. (please note the earlier time). This service will be followed by breakfast served here, with members of our Sunday School helping.

At 10:00 a.m., a traditional Easter Service will take place in our sanctuary.

The Confirmation Class will no longer meet weekly on Wednesdays. The next meeting will take place after worship on April 16th (Palm Sunday) to go over plans for the Maundy Thursday Seder.

Students will be confirmed on June 11th.

Operation Friendship, a youth cultural exchange program sponsored by this church, will hold a Spring Fling for ages 30 and over on April 29th. The event will be held at the Springfield Turnverein on Garden Street from 8:00 p.m. until 12:00 midnight.

Music will be provided by D.J. Dick. Tickets will be sold in advance for \$10. There will be no tickets sold at the door. Call Leslie at 786-3785 or stop by Alvin's Sandwich Shop on Walnut Street Extension for tickets.

While you've got your calendar out to save the date for the Spring Fling, mark May 6th or 13th for OF's fifth Annual Mystery Dinner, "Murder Most Criminal." Watch this paper for complete information at a later date.

The deadline to submit information for the May newsletter is Thursday, April 20th.

On the calendar:

Friday, April 14th: 6:00 to 10:00 p.m., Creative Memories.

Sunday, April 16th: 10:00 a.m., Palm Sunday; Confirmation Class meets following worship; 12:00 noon to 8:00 p.m., Church of Redemption; 2:00 to 4:00 p.m., Cub Scout pack meeting.

Monday, April 17th: 4:00 p.m., Daisy Scouts; 6:30 p.m., Cub Scouts; 7:30 p.m., Worship Committee.

Tuesday, April 18th: 7:00 p.m., A.A.; 7:30 p.m., Lay Minister/Membership Committee.

Wednesday, April 19th: 2:45 p.m., Girl Scouts; 6:30 p.m., Girl Scouts; 7:30 p.m., Choir.

Thursday, April 20th: Newsletter deadline; 6:30 p.m., Tenebrae Service followed by Seder Supper.

Valley Comm. Church Women's Club Slates Good Friday Bake Sale

The Ladies' Club from the Valley Community Church has announced that it will hold its Annual Good Friday Bake Sale (April 21st) at the Ames Department Store on Springfield Street in Agawam.

Here is an opportunity to purchase all the wonderful home-baked desserts that Valley Community bakers have become famous for at their monthly chicken suppers.

The sale begins at 9:30 a.m., and Dot Wells, Club Chairwoman, suggests that people get there early for the best "pickings." Not to worry if you show up late, though, as desserts will be brought in throughout the day until the late afternoon.

The Valley Community Church is a non-denominational church located high on the hill at 152 South Westfield Street, Feeding Hills. For more information, call 786-2445.

— ADVERTISER NEWS —

Lenten Season Events And Activities At First Baptist Church In Agawam

At First Baptist Church (760 Main Street, Agawam), Rev. Barnes' sermon topic on Palm Sunday will be "Shouting Hosannas," and the scripture reading will be from Mark, chapter 11, and John, chapter 15.

Following the service, palm fronds will be handed out by the youth. Visitors are welcome. Child-care is available during worship.

Following worship is a time for coffee and fellowship, and then Sunday School classes for all ages.

A Communion Service will be held on Maundy Thursday evening in Bodurtha Hall at 7:00 p.m. Meditation and scripture readings will be from the

Gospel of Matthew, with particular focus on the Lord's Supper and Jesus' betrayal.

All are welcome to attend this special service during Holy Week.

The Wednesday morning Lenten Prayer Time and Breakfast is held at 7:00 a.m. in the Hall Memorial Chapel.

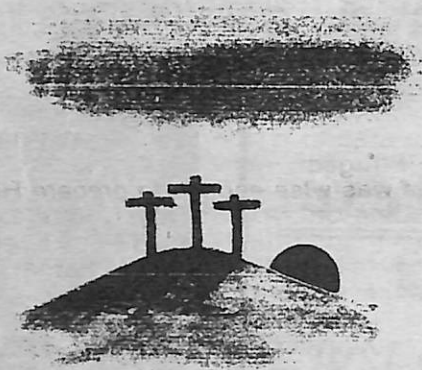
A Car Wash sponsored by our youth will be held on April 22nd. Just in time to have a clean car for Easter.

Church office hours are 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, and the office can be reached at 786-7300.

Best local news with us ... AAN!!!

GOD BLESS YOU at Easter

The promise was made to us at Christmas when Jesus was born. The promise was kept when Jesus rose from the grave! There have been many great men who have walked this earth, but only one man walked away from His grave! Jesus lives and He lives in the hearts of those who follow him.



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Church News - continued...

Lenten Calendar From Agawam United Methodist Church

Agawam United Methodist Church is located at 459 Mill Street in Agawam (opposite Agawam High School).

HOLY WEEK

Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday (April 16th) and a procession of glad hallelujahs (from green room to Sanctuary). Come hold a palm and join the great parade of witnesses.

On Holy Thursday, we shall gather in the sanctuary at 7:00 p.m. for a service of Holy Communion remembering Jesus' Last Supper with his disciples. Thursday begins the dramatic story of Jesus' agony in Gethsemane, his arrest, torture, and trial. The church will be open for prayer from 12:00 noon to 3:00 p.m. on Good Friday. The pastor will be available in the church.

On Easter morning, we will have the opportunity to unite Ecumenically for a Sunrise Service at Valley Community Church at 5:30 a.m. Following the service, our church is invited to a pancake breakfast at the Feeding Hills Congregational Church (free will offering).

You are invited to bring an Easter lily for the Easter service.

SOUND ADVICE By Edith Michaud

*It takes a lot of teamwork to make a Church progress.
It takes a lot of patience to alleviate the stress,
It takes a bit of solitude to try to work things out.
It takes the will to do things, of that there is no doubt,
It takes a brighter outlook if you would feel secure,
It takes a group of friendly folks to make our Church endure.*

* * *

**Our office will be open on
Monday, April 17th (Pa-
triot's Day).**

* * *

Announcements From Faith Bible Church In Agawam

As the Easter season is upon us, many are seeking a place to worship.

On Friday evening, April 21st, at 7:00 p.m., Pastor Jasmin will be presenting a dramatic service of the hours leading to the crucifixion of our Lord and Savior.

We invite all to attend, as this evening promises to show us the true meaning of Easter Sunday. Refreshments will follow.

* * *

On Easter Sunday, April 23rd, we are having a special Easter Sunrise Service at 6:00 a.m., and our regular Sunday service will be at 10:30 a.m.

Come and worship for He has risen.

* * *

On April 11th, we started our Tuesday morning women's Bible Studies. The study will be held from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m., with nursery provided.

Each week, we will have a different speaker. All women are welcome.

* * *

WEEKLY SCHEDULE OF EVENTS AT FAITH BIBLE CHURCH

Sunday: 9:00 a.m. to 10:15 a.m., First Service; 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon, Service; 12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m., Coffee/Fellowship.

Tuesday: 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., Bible Study/Book of Revelation.

Wednesday: 6:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Prayer; 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., Praise & Worship Service.

First & Third Thursday: 6:00 to 7:00 p.m., Young Ladies Bible Study (at the Michalak home).

Friday: 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Youth Group.

Saturday: 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m., Leadership Prayer & Meeting; 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m., Open Prayer; 9:15 a.m. to 10:00 a.m., Bible Study; 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, Music Practice; 12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m., Outreach.

*Check our classified ads in each
edition of The AAN...*

Parish News And Notes From St. John's Church

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Grade 2 — Special Classes.

Grade 11 — April 30th.

The Confirmation class will be going by bus to the Cathedral for the Chrism Mass on April 17th. Anyone who would like to join us is welcome until the bus is full. We will leave at 6:15 p.m.

SUNDAY TO SUNDAY

We will continue this program weekly here at St. John's for all who would like to deepen their awareness of the Sunday readings ahead of time.

Thursday at 7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.; Friday mornings, 9:10 - 9:45 a.m.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Each Friday night after the 7:00 p.m. Mass. Come join us!

Children's Stations on Fridays at 4:00 p.m.

ST. JOHN'S NEWSLETTER

The Newsletter Committee is preparing for the next edition of the Parish Newsletter. Anyone who would like to submit an article is asked to call Donna Gregory at 788-7681 as soon as possible.

Names are still being accepted for a name for the newsletter.

EASTER FLOWERS

Envelopes are at the doors for those who would like to have family members included in the memorial flowers for Easter.

They must be returned by April 18th.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The next Parish Council meeting will take place on April 18th at 7:30 p.m.

ZITI & MEATBALL DINNER

On Thursday, April 27th, from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m., the Knights of Columbus, Council No. 5585, will host a Ziti & Meatball Dinner at St. John's Parish Hall.

Tickets are \$4 for adults, \$2 for children, and free for children five years of age and under. Door prizes will be awarded.

Tickets will be available at the door. Chairman of this event is Gerry Parent, 786-2884.



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Church News - continued...

Holy Week Schedule Of Events At Sacred Heart Church

The following is a complete schedule of Holy Week starting with Palm Sunday and ending with Easter.

Passion (Palm) Sunday, April 16th: Masses - Saturday, 4:00 p.m., Sunday, 7:30, 9:00, and 11:00 a.m.

Holy Thursday, April 20th: 8:00 a.m., Morning Prayer (Booklet provided); 7:00 p.m., Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper with Washing of Feet; Transfer of Eucharist (please bring any type of bell. All bells will be rung at the Gloria) continuing with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament; 10:00 p.m., End of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

Good Friday, April 21st: 8:00 a.m., Morning Prayer (Booklet provided); 11:00 a.m., Children's Service - a dramatic presentation of Jesus' words from the Cross; 3:00 p.m., Stations of the Cross; 7:00 p.m. Celebration of the Passion of the Lord.

Holy Saturday, April 22nd: 8:00 a.m., Morning Prayer (Booklet provided); 12:00 noon, Blessing of Easter Food in the Parish Center; 8:00 p.m., Easter Vigil (bring both a bell and a baptismal or white candle).

Easter Sunday, April 23rd: 7:30 a.m., Blessing of Grave and Celebration of the Mass of Resurrection; 9:00 a.m., Mass of Resurrection; 11:00 a.m., Mass of Resurrection.

RUMMAGE SALE

The date of the Rummage Sale is drawing closer - Thursday, April 27th is the date! We will be selling used clothing of all kinds, and an Attic Treasure Room filled with "collectibles." We have been holding the Rummage Sale for many years and have a large following of people who come every year - and often hear that it is one of the best around.

So, please remember us as you get out your spring and summer items and find that you no longer want them. You can drop them off at the Parish Center on the three days before the sale from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon and again from 2:00-4:00 p.m.

The Rummage Sale Committee thanks you in advance for supporting this event.

HOLY THURSDAY

If you wish to have your feet washed on Holy Thursday, call the rectory and leave a message.

ROSARY FOR WORLD PEACE

The Rosary for World Peace is recited in the Church each Monday immediately following the 7:00 p.m. Mass and also each Wednesday morning immediately following the 8:00 a.m. Mass.

All are welcome and encouraged to join us in prayer.

Holy Week At Valley Comm. Church

Easter can be compared to Christmas in that oftentimes we leave Christ out of the picture and it suddenly becomes a family holiday with lots of running around, buying food and goodies, decorating, gifts, parties, and "oh, yeah - we probably should try to make it to church."

Church attendance on these holidays is a little bit like being in Heaven. Many we expect to see are absent.

Before you commit to a full schedule of "things to do," add these to your list and join us at Valley Community Church and Christ on Your Calendar:

Palm Sunday Service - April 16th. Message: "King of Who, King of What?"

We'll have the traditional giving of the palms and a special ceremonial children's "Hosanna Parade."

Maundy Thursday - April 20th. Message: "Love Lessons."

A celebration of the Last Supper. Communion will be served.

Good Friday - April 21st. Message: "Cross Cries!"

A service of prayer and reflection on our Lord's crucifixion. The church is draped in black, symbolic of the somberness of His final hours on earth.

Prayer Vigil - April 21st through April 23rd.

A time of personal prayer. Individuals and couples sign up for a specific hour during these three days to keep vigil with our Lord during his darkest hours from 3:00 p.m. on April 21st through 5:00 a.m. on April 23rd.

Easter Sunrise Service - April 23rd, 5:30 a.m.

The Easter Sunrise Service will commence at our church at 5:30 a.m. Several area churches will be joining us. Following the service, attendees are invited to an Easter Breakfast at the Feeding Hills Congregational Church.

Easter Sunday Service - April 23rd, 9:30 a.m. Message: "Resurrection Realities."

Our regular Easter Service will begin at 9:30 a.m. in our sanctuary, which will be clothed in white, filled with lilies, and bathed in the glorious light of our resurrected Lord, Jesus Christ.

Please join us at Valley Community Church, 152 South Westfield Street, Feeding Hills. Pastor Gene de Jongh is the shepherd of this vibrant and growing church.

Valley Community Church is a non-denominational church and welcomes all who claim Jesus Christ as their savior.

"Church News" is just one more reason why you turn our pages each and every week ... AAN!!!

Easter Sunrise Service Scheduled At Valley Community Church

One would be hard-pressed to find a better or more beautiful setting for an Easter Sunrise Service than the front lawn of Valley Community Church at 152 South Westfield Street in Feeding Hills.

Located high on a hill, the church boasts an unobstructed view of the Pioneer Valley facing east where the sun rises over the mountains.

This year, several area churches will be taking part in the 5:30 p.m. service, including St. David's Episcopal Church, First Baptist Church of Agawam, Feeding Hills Congregational Church, Agawam Congregational Church, and others. Rev. Richard Barnes of First Baptist Church will deliver the Easter message.

Following the service, which will take place outside on the lawn (bundle up!), attendees are invited to an Easter pancake breakfast hosted by the Feeding Hills Congregational Church, located down the street at 21 North Westfield Street.

The public is welcome to join us in this glorious celebration of Christ's resurrection.

Annual Spring Rummage Sale At Sacred Heart Church

The Annual Spring Rummage Sale at Sacred Heart Church in Feeding Hills will be on Thursday, April 27th.

There will be rooms filled with clothing for the entire family, household linens, and a room filled with Attic Treasures. Hours for the sale are 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

At 6:00 p.m., the doors will open again and you can fill a bag (provided) for \$3. This will end at 7:00 p.m.

Catholic Women's Club Seeks Vendors For Rummage Sale

The Catholic Women's Club of Agawam is seeking vendors and crafters for a tag/rummage sale to be held on April 29th from 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. in the parking lot of St. John the Evangelist Church, 833 Main Street, Agawam.

Size of space is 15' x 18' and the cost is only \$15. Food and drinks will be available on the premises.

For further information, call Betsy Ciempa at 786-5160.

ADVERTISER NEWS



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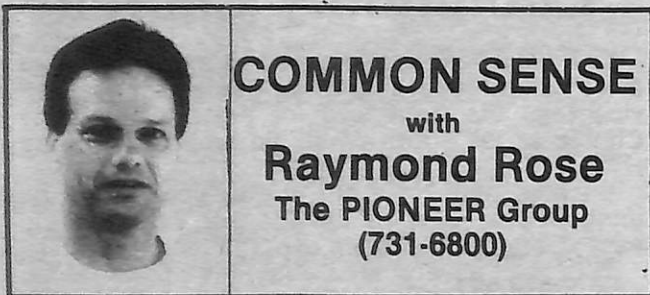
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IF YOUR FRIENDS DON'T HAVE THE MONEY FOR A DOWN PAYMENT ... the Fresh Rate Program, subsidized through the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, lends homebuyers the three-percent down payment needed to buy a home at a low, fixed interest rate ... and, if the homeowner lives in the home for a 10-year period or longer, the loan of three-percent is forgiven. Want more info? Email me or leave your name and address on my voice mail at 846-0961 and I will send out a Free Home Buyer's Kit.

LANE CHANGING WON'T SPEED TRIPS ... On congested roads, lanes of traffic tend to have the same average speed. While it may seem that the other lane moves faster, in most cases, you will get there just as quickly and with less risk by simply staying in one lane.

IF YOU HAVE FAMILY OR FRIENDS RELOCATING TO ANOTHER STATE ... we have a nationwide list of Buyer's Agents and chances are we could refer them to a Buyer's Agent in their new area. Also, if you happen to know of any homes that are For Sale By Owner, or if you know anyone who is selling their home, we have buyers. In either of these cases, just give me a call and let me know ... thanks!

EXPECT KIDS TO MAKE MONEY MISTAKES WHEN YOU GIVE THE MORE FINANCIAL FREEDOM ... Mistakes can be valuable learning tools. It is better for a child to buy a poor-quality t-shirt that does not survive a single washing than to make a more costly mistake with a larger sum. Bottom line: Teach kids the importance of planning their spending and making quality purchases.

DO ANY NO-LOAD MUTUAL FUNDS ALLOW INITIAL INVESTMENTS OF \$250 OR LESS and have automatic investment plans, especially funds that allow installment payments to IRA's? Yes ... there are two funds families to look into ... **Strong Funds ...** A family of 49 diverse no-load funds that require no initial minimum as long as \$50 or more per month is invested. 800-368-1030. **TIAA-CREF Funds.** Six no-load funds with \$250 minimum or automatic plan with \$25 invested initially and a minimum of \$25 per quarter. 800-223-1200.

THE BIGGEST CAUSE OF HOME FIRES IS CARELESS COOKING ... Don't store items such as potholders and dish towels on top of stoves or pour water on grease fires (cover the pan instead) or use appliances with frayed wires or wear very loose clothes while cooking. Be sure that your entire family is aware of this important info.

A VERY BIG THANKS GOES OUT TO ALL OF YOU ... that have emailed/forwarded The Pioneer Report - Online to others last month ... thanks for your support! I would appreciate it if you would continue to tell your friends about the services that I offer as an Exclusive Buyer's Agent. Double click — Ray Rose's Web Page. Thanks!

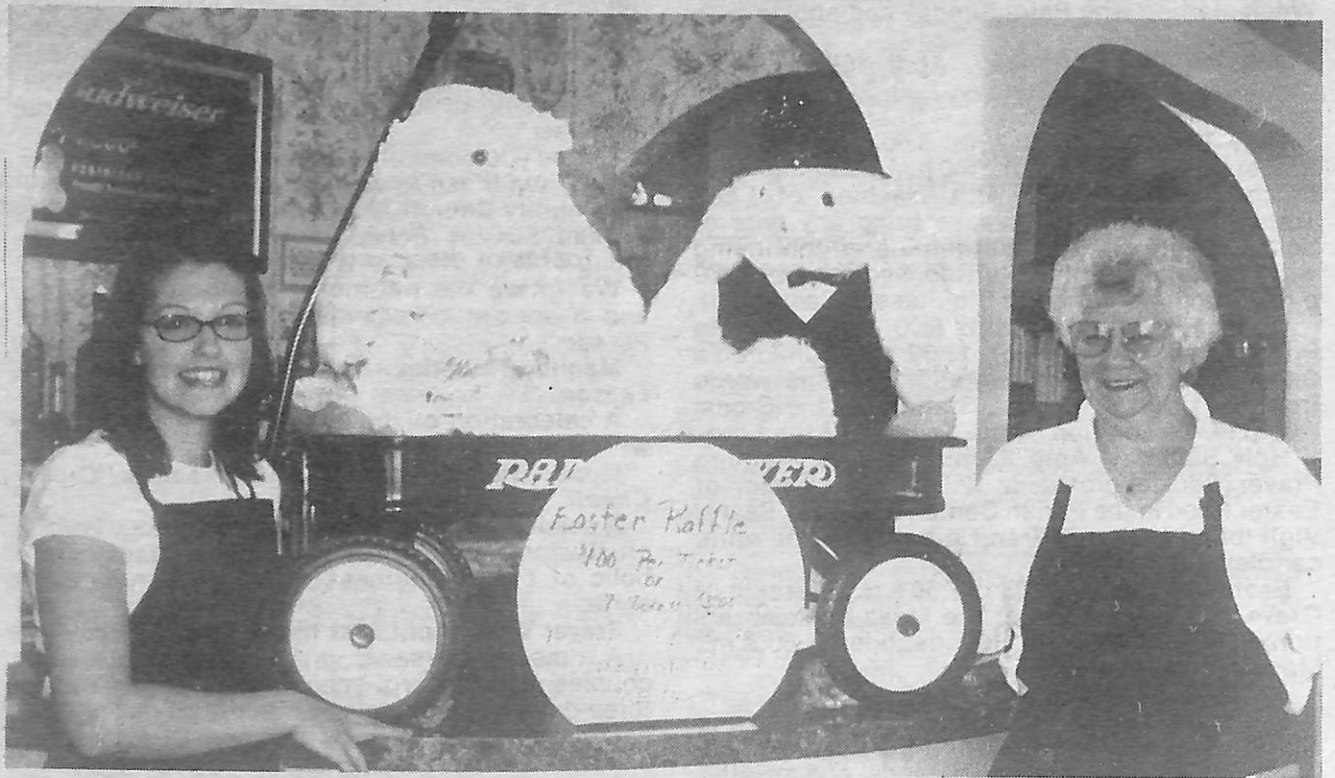
MY PROMISE TO YOU ... I will not sell or give your email to anyone. I will use your address ONLY to keep you informed about your file (if you are an active client) and to forward to you The Pioneer Report - Online. Also, I'll make it easy for you to unsubscribe when you no longer want to receive this free email report.

THANKS AGAIN FOR YOUR SUPPORT ... it's appreciated! Enjoy the spring!

Raymond Rose is a resident of Agawam, and the Principal of THE PIONEER GROUP, a professional real estate and financial services firm serving home buyers and sellers throughout the area. Comments and questions can be directed to his office (731-6800) or his e-mail (RaymondRose@aol.com). Also, contact him via e-mail to receive his FREE online newsletter, THE PIONEER REPORT - Online. It's filled with enjoyable and informative info helping to "keep life simple." Thanks!

CORRECTION: In last week's AAN (April 6th edition), the address of "J.T. Upholstery" was incorrectly listed as 1505 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, in our photo spread from "HOME SHOW 2000." The address should have been 505 Springfield Street. We apologize for this error.

"Easter Raffle" At Parthenon...



EACH EASTER, Parthenon Pizzeria/Restaurant, located at 835 Suffield Street (Rte. 75), Agawam, holds a raffle of seasonal goodies. In the photo above, restaurant employees Marie Botta and Dolly LaGrange pose with this year's raffle prize — a child's wagon and a pair of stuffed rabbits. Tickets are \$1 each, or \$5 for seven. All proceeds will be donated to charity, and the drawing will be held at 8:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 22nd (the day before Easter). Incidentally, the bunnies' clothes were made by Parthenon co-owner Carol Pananas. Advertiser

News photo by Kathy Shepard.

Anna Santana Joins Spfld. Office Of Coldwell Banker Keenan & Molta

Coldwell Banker Keenan & Molta Associates welcomes a new agent to its Springfield office. Anna Santana is the newest member of the Keenan & Molta team.

"We are happy to welcome Anna to the company," says Bob Molta, President of Coldwell Banker Keenan & Molta Associates. Santana joins an award-winning team of 75 Realtors working in five offices located throughout Western Massachusetts.

Anna Santana currently lives in Springfield and has lived in Western Massachusetts for more than 25 years. She is new to real estate and is looking forward to learning the trade and meeting clients. Santana speaks Spanish and hopes to work with clients in the Spanish-speaking community as

well as people all around the Springfield area. She has experiences as a small business owner, and in working with small children. Santana knows this will help her serve families looking to buy homes in Western Massachusetts.

Coldwell Banker Keenan & Molta Associates is the largest locally-owned real estate company in Western Massachusetts, the second largest real estate company in the greater Springfield area.

The firm is the principal broker for Cendant Mobility; the largest relocation company in the world. Five offices and approximately 75 sales associates provide comprehensive home-selling, home-buying, mortgage, and relocation services to the greater Springfield area.

*Making your
desires visible.*
You are worth it!

Read more about this in today's FOR YOUR HEALTH column.

from

Dan Pender

Marriage & Family Therapist

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Spotlight On Business - continued...



Timely Tips On How To Manage Your Finances

by Sue & Charlie Alvanos
Personal Financial Advisors
American Express
534-3883

Want To Trim Your 2000 Tax Bill? Here's Where To Start... (Part II Of II)

In your investment portfolio. Planning your investments with an eye on taxes may boost your results in several ways.

IRS and Roth IRA — If you haven't considered the idea of contributing to an IRA in the past couple of years, you're in for a pleasant surprise. The Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997 created some attractive changes.

The Roth IRA allows qualifying taxpayers to contribute up to \$2,000 for singles and \$4,000 for married couples each year, although the maximum yearly contribution is phased out for a single individual with adjusted gross income (AGI) between \$95,000 and \$110,000 and joint filers with AGI between \$150,000 and \$160,000. For Roth IRAs, even though your contributions aren't tax-deductible, withdrawals are tax-free, providing certain requirements are met.

In addition, if neither you nor your spouse participate in an employer plan, you can fully deduct your contribution to traditional IRAs regardless of your income. Even non-working spouses can contribute \$2,000 annually to an IRA, subject to AGI limits.

Timing of Securities Sales — By holding securities for more than 12 months before selling them, you'll qualify for the capital gains tax rate of 20 percent (10 percent for taxpayers in the 15 percent income tax bracket on most investments).

Sales of collectible and certain real estate have different rates. If you sell a security earlier, any short-term capital gain will be taxed at your ordinary income tax rate, which will be higher.

Offsetting Gains with Losses — If you have capital gains, you may be able to offset them with losses from other securities. If your losses outweigh gains, you can deduct excess losses against ordinary income up to \$3,000 and then carry any remainder over for use in future years.

A planned approach. Touch your tax-cutting bases every year by making tax tactics part of your overall financial plan. A knowledgeable financial advisor, accountant, and tax attorney can work together to help you succeed.

John Schuler Named To Who's Who

John E. Schuler, ABR of Century-21 Newschu Real Estate, Inc., 820 Suffield St., Agawam has been accepted by *The National Registry of Who's Who* as a Life Member.

According to George Nolan, chairman of The National Registry, "Who's Who accepts only those people that we believe have made a measurable contribution to their profession and to their community."

The National Registry of Who's Who is a highly recognized biographical publication for professionals.

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and services, be
sure to check
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ads each and
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On Thursday, April 27th...

Free Seminar On Reverse Mortgage Loans At Agawam Senior Ctr.

Are you house rich, yet cash poor? You are invited to a FREE SEMINAR on REVERSE MORTGAGE LOANS, your new retirement nest egg. Bring a friend and learn how to unlock the equity in your home!

Sponsored by the Agawam Council on Aging, the seminar will be held Thursday, April 27th from 12:30-1:30 p.m. at the Agawam Senior Center, 68 Meadowbrook Manor.

Topics of discussion will include, *Who is Eligible? How Much Money Will I Receive? Do I Have To Qualify? Are There Any Fees Involved? Can I Spend the Money Any Way I Wish? Will I Still Have an Estate to Leave My Kids? Does This Program Affect Social Security or Medicare? What About SSI or Medicaid? What Happens If I Ever Want to Move? How Safe Is This Program?*



CYNTHIA REGNIER

Pam Savioli

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Having Problems With Your Grass???

To quickly and easily repair an area of dead grass in your lawn, or a washout on a steeply sloped area, use strips of mature grass sold as turfgrass sod.

Garden centers, nurseries, and sod farms can supply your needs in grasses suited to your area's particular growing requirements.

Pieces of sod range in size from three square feet to one square yard and can be easily cut to any size or shape.

Because the grass is mature when it's sold, there shouldn't be any problems with continual washouts and weeds that usually occur with seeding.

Cynthia Regnier Earns MBA From Simmons Graduate School

Cynthia Regnier recently received a Master's Degree in Business Administration from the Simmons Graduate School of Management in Boston.

Ms. Regnier, a former resident of West Springfield and Feeding Hills, now resides in the Boston area. She attended Cathedral High School and received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Engineering from Western New England College.

She is the daughter of Dolores Regnier of West Springfield.

The Simmons Graduate program is unique in that it is the only national program specializing in Master's of Business Degrees for executive women.

Ms. Regnier received academic distinction and was awarded the Dean's Scholarship Award for Professional Achievement.

Her career experience for the past 12 years has been in the Computer/High Tech magazine publishing field, most recently serving as Publisher for Business Media Group.

Ms. Regnier will travel to Europe before returning to work in the Boston area.



PARTHENON Pizzeria Restaurant

835 Suffield St. (Rte. 75), Agawam

\$2 OFF Any Large Pizza

Must Present Coupon
— Expires 4/30/00 —
(Offer Not Good With Any Other Coupon Or Promo)

Buy Any Size Pizza, Get 2nd Pizza At HALF PRICE

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Buy 3 Grinders, Get One FREE

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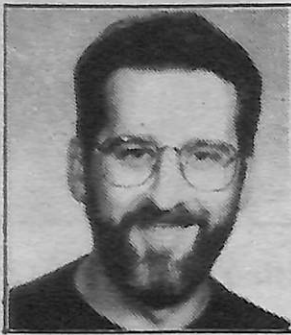
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Family Therapist
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Making Your Desires Visible...

Sometimes it can be very helpful to write down on paper **what are my desires**. Does simply writing them down mean you will live into them? No, not necessarily, but maybe it can help.

Try it! Take a few moments now to take yourself seriously and jot down a few desires that you'd like to live into. Often this exercise can tap into ideas that you are already aware of and perhaps desires may emerge that may be surprising.

Something different happens once they get down on paper. They become visible. *You* become a little more visible. The challenge then becomes ... what do I do with them?

Often they can change the way you live. The process of *naming* your desires can be discomfoting. You may soon realize that you are really dependent on another person to make them happen. So, too, can you realize that what you really want is to live into these desires for and by yourself.

Many of us simply dismiss what we desire because we feel limited to live into them because of our fear of what others will think if we take ourselves seriously and try living into them.

Writing them down may just be a first step into making them "real." Maybe you'll live into them some day into the future because you have begun the process. I find it amazing how difficult it can be to make what we desire **visible**, especially if what we desire startles us.

For example, I desire to have more passion in my relationships. So often I am frightened by the depth of intimacy that is possible when I open myself up to being really present in the moment. Sure, it can be somewhat easier with my partner,

but what about having this desire for passion being present outside my marriage with others?

On one hand, you, like me, may experience living into your desires outside your important relationship(s) easier. It can be especially challenging and difficult to be passionate with your partner, child(ren), parent, friend, or co-worker. On the other hand, how often we find ourselves opening up to a perfect stranger, like on an airplane ride, when we know we'll probably never see that person again.

If we get in touch with our desires, we may actually embrace them and struggle into making them a reality. Many of live **desire-less lives**, or at best we are remotely in touch with what *used to be* our desires. It can be so easy to lose touch with what used to be so important. Equally frightening and challenging is being in relationship with someone whose desires are vibrant and available.

Desire cannot exist, in my opinion, as stagnant relics of the past. We need to continually challenge ourselves into our present and our future. We need to challenge one another to know (name) our desires and live into them.

What could happen if you not only faced your list of desires, but actually shared them out loud? Sometimes this process can magically transform us! This can be especially true if we are not so dependent on what others think. But therein lies the problem!

Most of us are so locked into what other people think, especially to what those most important to us think, that despite writing them down on paper, the task of making them real seems impossible. This notion is captured best by a term author David Schnarch (PASSIONATE MARRIAGE) calls the "Reflected sense of self." More on this next time.

In the meantime, try facing a blank sheet of paper and see what you discover about yourself. Invite, if you can, an important person to you to do the same. It could change how you do relationships. Good luck!

The complexity of making your desires visible.

Please contact me with what you've come up with. As always, if I reprint any or all of your material, I will *not* publish your name **unless** you specifically give me permission to do so. I can be reached by e-mail (AOL screen name: dpmft449) or P.O. Box 449, Agawam, MA 01001, or by phone at (413) 789-4460.

PLEASE PICK UP YOUR OLD PHOTOS: If you've brought photos to our office for wedding announcements, scouting events, athletic teams, etc., we encourage you to pick them up during the month of April. As of April 30th, we will be disposing of all unclaimed photographs.

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Technological Breakthrough In Comfort.

Proclear Compatibles™ soft contact lenses are made from the first soft contact lens material ever to be cleared by the FDA to carry the label "may provide improved comfort for contact lens wearers who experience mild discomfort or symptoms relating to dryness during lens wear." Only available through your eyecare practitioner. Call today.

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by
Dr. Tami Nelson
Chiropractic
Physician
Hampden County
Chiropractic
850 Springfield St.
Feeding Hills
786-4820

Golf Tidbits...

I know the snow this week did not deter my golfing friends. Here are some tidbits of information that may be helpful.

- Keeping hydrated is key on the golf course. Drink plenty of water (not soda, beer or coffee!).
- Hypoglycemia, or low blood sugar, can cause sweating, weakness, hunger, shaking, anxiety, headaches, dizziness, and blurred vision. Try to keep your eating balanced. Snack on fruits and nuts to maintain even sugar levels.
- To play better golf and decrease the risk of injury:
 - * Strengthen abdominal, trunk, and upper body muscles.
 - * Shorten your back swing and decrease torque/tension in your swing.
 - Nutritional factors that can be used for inflammation due to an injury:
 - * Omega 3 fatty acids (fish oil) — 2-3 grams/day.
 - * Ginger — 2-6 grams/day.
 - * Bioflavonoids — 2 grams/day.
 - Nutritional factors to augment tissue repair:
 - * Glucosamine sulfate — 1,500 mg/day.
 - * Magnesium — 400 to 1,000 mg/day.

This week my colleague, Dr. Dave Masztal, and I will be at Nevada Bob's in West Springfield on Saturday, April 15th, to help them celebrate their 25th anniversary. We will have a booth with lots of information on the body and golf. Stop by and say hello!

On Wednesday, April 26th, at 7:00 p.m. at 850 Springfield Street, we will be offering a free seminar on golfing and back pain. Please call our office at 786-4820 to reserve a seat.

Dr. Nelson maintains an office at Hampden County Chiropractic, 850 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, 786-4820.

"For Your Health" is just one more reason why you turn our pages each and every week...

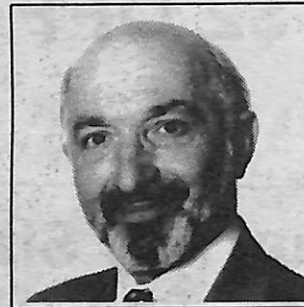
MEDICAL WEST ASSOCIATES

Welcomes back

Dr. Oded Rencus

Chief of Obstetrics & Gynecology

"Having my practice at Medical West gives me the opportunity to work closely with other specialists - internists, pediatricians, surgeons, radiologists - to provide excellent care to my patients - adolescence through the reproductive years and menopause."



Our patients' needs and desires guide our course. Quality of care is our highest priority."

-Dr. Oded Rencus

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For Your Health - continued...

Sweating For A Good Cause At Fitness First...



IN TOP PHOTO: Fitness First staff member Laura Taylor spent four hours walking on the treadmill for the Staff Treadmill Challenge. She raised \$485 for the Children's Miracle Network. **IN PHOTO BELOW:** Laura Taylor and Dina Lancour sold baked goods that Fitness First's "Young At Heart" group donated for the Children's Miracle Network.



Cancer Support Group Meets On Mondays At Mercy Hospital

Persons with cancer, their families, and friends are invited to attend Mercy Hospital's Cancer Support Group. The free meetings are conducted Mondays at 7:00 p.m., in the hospital's Deliso Conference Center, 299 Carew St.

The group offers information on topics of interest to cancer patients, and provides an opportunity to share experiences in a friendly, supportive atmosphere. Meetings are facilitated by Sr. Madeleine Joy, S.P., of Mercy's Pastoral Care Department.

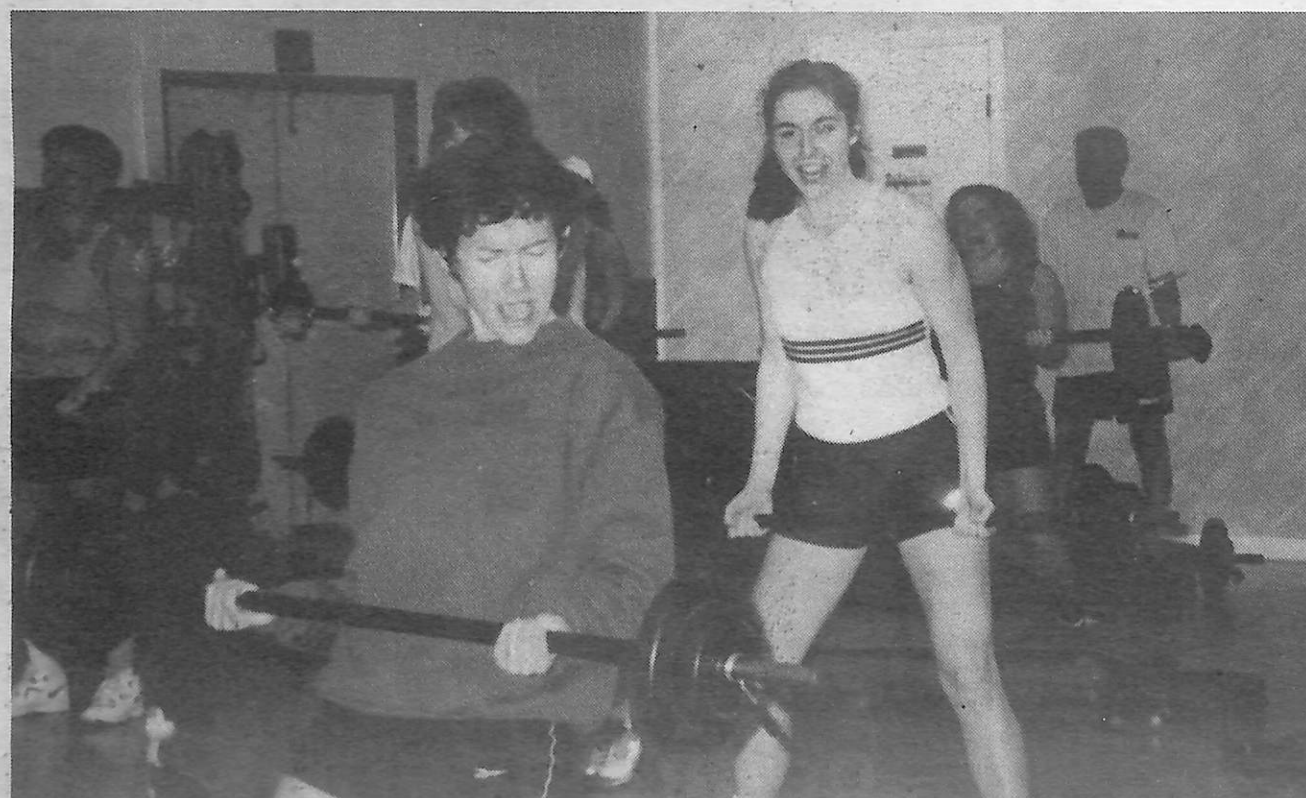
For more information, call the Pastoral Care Department, (413) 748-9453.



DIANA KING (left), an instructor at Fitness First and mother of Jack King (this year's Children's Miracle Network miracle baby poster child), "spins" in the Spinning Marathon during the recently held Children's Miracle Network fundraiser at Fitness First in Feeding Hills.



THE FITNESS FIRST Kids' BodyPUMP raised \$500 for the Children's Miracle Network. Shown lifting weights are Michaela King, Spenser Afonso, and Heather Moffatt.



LISA GARDE AND EMILY MANNIE "pump it up" during the BodyPUMP portion of the three-hour Children's Miracle Network Aerobathon at Fitness First.

Classified ads in the Advertiser News cost just \$10 per week for 30 words or less; however, we DO NOT take them over the telephone. Please bring them to our office at 14 Southwick Street (in the Crossroads Shoppes), Feeding Hills, or mail them (with payment) to P.O. Box 263, Feeding Hills, MA 01030.

FITNESS runs in the family!

START A NEW FAMILY TRADITION

CELEBRATE FAMILY FITNESS MONTH!

We invite you to discover how much *fun* a program of healthy exercise can be for every member of your family with this special offer:

ENROLL* THE ENTIRE FAMILY FOR ONLY

\$99

PLUS RECEIVE FREE DUES UNTIL MAY 15th

*When you join in a new 12-month membership

SPECIAL RATES FOR INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS AS WELL!

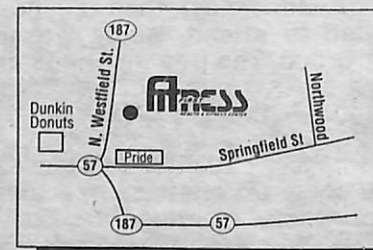
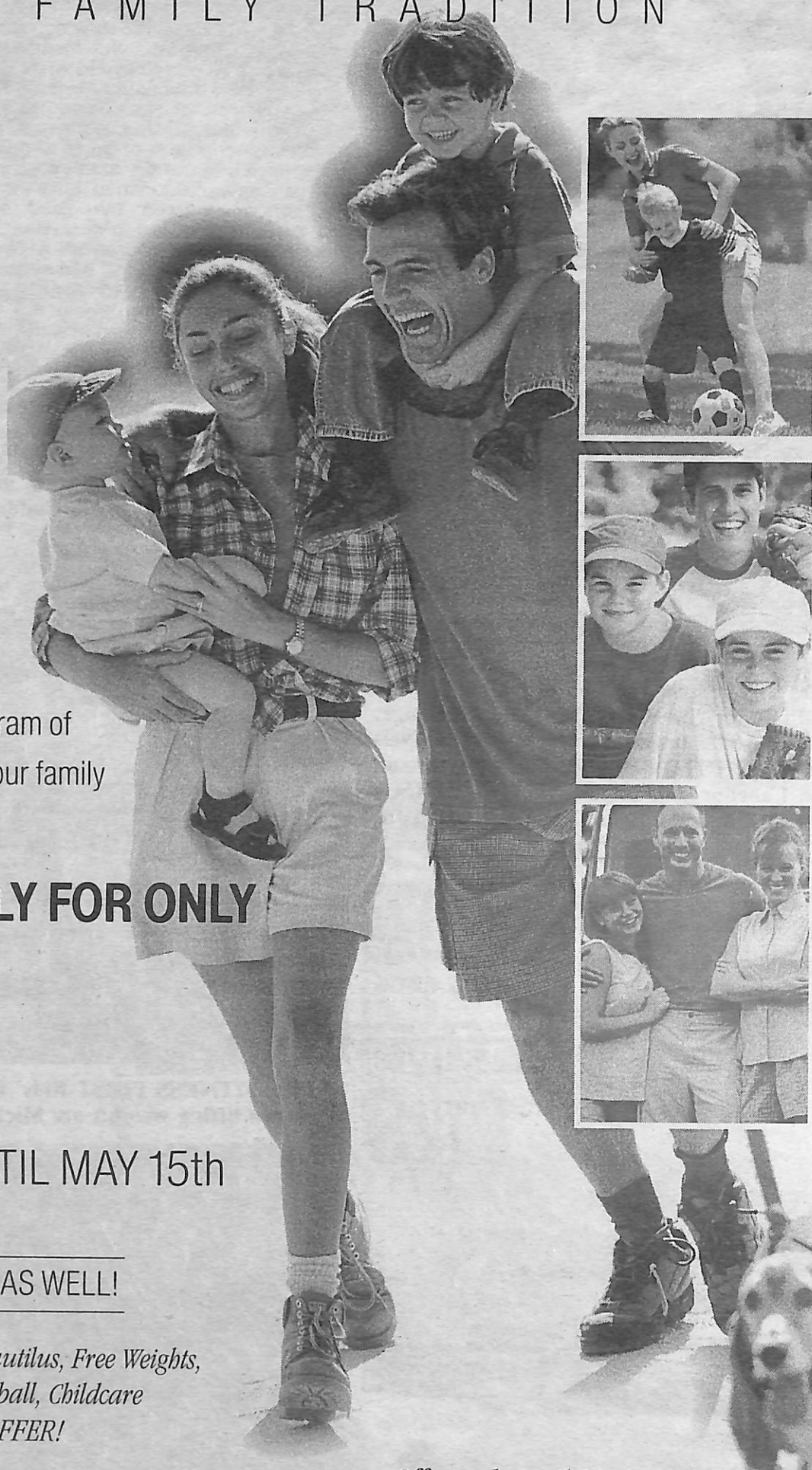
Enjoy Swimming, Treadmills, Crosstrainers, Cybex, Nautilus, Free Weights, Spinning, BodyPump, Group Exercise Classes, Racquetball, Childcare and so much more! SEE HOW MUCH WE HAVE TO OFFER!

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Firestone FR440, F570 & Wilderness HT on Sale Now Thru April 29th!

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Free
Key Chain Alarm Clock with Spare Coin Holder
With the purchase of a Kendall® oil change!
Mail in offer through April 29th! While supplies last. See store for details.

NO PAYMENT FOR 90 DAYS
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RECOMMENDED EVERY 3 MONTHS OR 3,000 MILES

OIL CHANGE & FILTER

- Install new filter
- Includes refill of up to 5 quarts Kendall® 10W-30 motor oil
- Lubricate chassis (if applicable)

\$12⁹⁹

4 TIRE ROTATION \$5.00 Additional

Oil Filter Disposal Fee \$1.50 Additional

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In-depth visual analysis of major systems:

- Tires
- Suspension
- Brakes
- Belts/Hoses
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- Battery
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- Lights & more...

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\$39⁹⁹ 4 Cyl.
\$49⁹⁹ 6 Cyl.
\$59⁹⁹ 8 Cyl.

Transverse V-6 engine \$39.00 additional. Platinum plugs & AC interference extra.

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RADIATOR SERVICE

Drain & Fill

- Check System
- Drain & Recover old anti-freeze
- Refill with required amount of coolant

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Power Flush

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- Flush & clean system
- Refill with required amount of coolant
- Add sealant/lubricant

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- Inspect steering/suspension system
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- Road test vehicle

Thrust Angle
\$39⁹⁹
4 Wheel
\$49⁹⁹

Parts and shims extra.

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Manager's VALUE PACKAGE

4 Service Package Special!

1. COMPLETE RADIATOR FLUSH
 - Test for leaks
 - Flush & clean system
 - Refill with correct amount of recycled coolant
2. OIL CHANGE & FILTER
 - Refill up to 5 quarts Kendall® 10W-30 motor oil
3. 4 TIRE ROTATION
4. COMPLETE VEHICLE INSPECTION

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NEW! Firehawk SS20 with UNI-T®
Racing Look with Superb Performance-Especially on Wet Surfaces
Priced From \$48.99 (Size P175/70R13)

FR440 RADIAL
SAVE THRU APRIL 29th!
Long Mileage, Quiet Ride
Firestone
SALE! \$119
4 For \$119 P155/80R13 or \$54.99 each
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ALL 13" TIRES - 4 for \$155 or \$43.99 each
ALL 14" TIRES - 4 for \$199 or \$54.99 each
ALL 15" TIRES - 4 for \$233 or \$63.99 each
70,75 & 80 series size whitewalls.

F570 RADIAL
SAVE THRU APRIL 29th!
Premiere Small Car Tire
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SALE! \$35⁹⁹
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Black Letters **SALE**
175/70R13 \$37.99
185/70R13 40.99
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Call for other sizes.

WILDERNESS HT
SAVE THRU APRIL 29th!
Long Mileage, Quiet Ride
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SALE! \$49⁹⁹
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White Letters **SALE**
P215/70R14 \$55.99
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Domestic	Import	Performance	SUVs Light Truck
ECONOMY RADIAL SPECIAL PURCHASE Our Lowest Priced Domestic 35,000 Mile Limited Warranty 4 For \$59 P155/80R13 or \$19.99 each ALL 13" TIRES - 4 for \$79 or \$22.99 each ALL 14" TIRES - 4 for \$89 or \$25.99 each ALL 15" TIRES - 4 for \$99 or \$27.99 each Call for other sizes.	IMPORT RADIAL SPECIAL PURCHASE All-Season, Steel Belted 35,000 Mile Limited Warranty \$17⁹⁹ P155R12 ALL 13" TIRES - \$25.99 ALL 14" TIRES - \$27.99 Call for other sizes.	LEMANS SR All-Season, Steel-Beltd 45,000 Mile Limited Warranty \$33⁹⁹ P175/70R13 White Letters Price P205/70R14 \$42.99 P215/70R14 44.99 P255/70R15 52.99 P215/65R15 48.99 P235/60R15 48.99 Call for other sizes.	LEMANS AT All-Season, Steel-Beltd OUR BEST PRICED For Light Trucks \$48⁹⁹ P205/75R14 White Letters Price P215/75R15 \$56.99 30x9.50R15 73.99 31x10.50R15 79.99 32x11.50R15 89.99 Call for other sizes.

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- Install brake pads or shoes
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- Road test vehicle

ORGANIC PADS **\$79⁹⁹**
SEMI-METALLIC PADS **\$99⁹⁹**

Prices most vehicles, front axle, disc or drum.
Most vehicles require semi-metallic pads.
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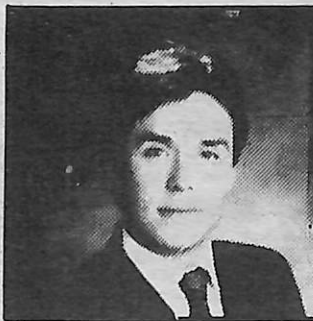
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For Your Health - continued...



Your Back And Your Health

by Dr. Joseph
S. Schlaffer
Schlaffer
Chiropractic Offices
192 Shoemaker Lane
Agawam

Treatment For Scoliosis

We have treated children with varying degrees of scoliosis, often with favorable results. I recently found this article and thought it would serve the interest of a parent whose child may have a mild degree of scoliosis.

STUDY ON CHIROPRACTIC CARE FOR ADOLESCENT SCOLIOSIS IS ENCOURAGING

Children with mild scoliosis treated with chiropractic adjustments have shown a reduction in their spinal curvature, according to the findings of a three-year, \$143,000 study funded by the Foundation for Chiropractic Education and Research.

This cohort study was conducted by Charles "Skip" Lantz, DC, Ph.D., director of research of Life Chiropractic College West, and his associates. The researchers were studying the effects of chiropractic full-spine adjustive procedures, heel-lifts, and postural counseling on children nine-15 years-old with mild idiopathic scoliosis (less than 20 degrees of curvature, with no complicating conditions).

Dr. Lantz released his team's findings in a presentation to the International Conference on Spinal Manipulation this past November in Bournemouth, England. "This was a very significant project," explained Dr. Lantz. "This is the first large-scale research ever to study chiropractic care and scoliosis. It was also one of the few studies ever to look at chiropractic management in a pediatric population."

RESULTS

Preliminary results indicate an average reduction of 1.4 degrees in the curvature of the subjects' spines; the children less than 10 years-old showed an average improvement of 2.6 degrees; those over 10 showed an average improvement of 0.9 degrees.

The intent was to study the effect of chiropractic care on the "curve itself, and the results are very promising."

The researchers pointed out that the medical community does not offer treatment for spinal curves of less than 20 degrees, and indeed often doesn't even consider such variance as scoliosis.

While the researchers assert that many questions remain to be answered about chiropractic care and scoliosis, they note: "Chiropractic appears to offer a distinct advantage in the management and monitoring of early stage scoliosis."

"The next step," says Dr. Lantz, "is to conduct a randomized, controlled clinical trial. One of the best options is to study children in braces with larger curves. This would require a collaboration with orthopedists in a major medical facility."

Call 789-1369 or 789-1073 for an appointment.

Pulmonary Support Group To Hold Mtg. At Mercy Hospital

Mercy Hospital's Pulmonary Support Group will meet Wednesday, April 26th, 1:00-3:00 p.m. in the hospital's Deliso Conference Center, 299 Carew St.

The free group is co-sponsored by the Lung Association, and is designed for those who feel physically or emotionally limited by breathing problems such as asthma, chronic bronchitis, or emphysema.

Meetings offer individuals, their families, and friends the opportunity to share problems and solutions. An informal social period with refreshments is also part of each session.

For more information, call Pulmonary/Neurology Services at Mercy Hospital, (413) 748-9669.

Stroke Support Group At Mercy Hospital

Stroke survivors, their families, and friends are invited to attend the next meeting of the Stroke Support Group, sponsored by the Weldon Center for Rehabilitation at Mercy Hospital.

The free session will take place Monday, April 24th, 7:00 p.m., in the hospital's Deliso Conference Center, 299 Carew St. Meetings are conducted the fourth Monday of each month, offering information and fellowship for persons living with the effects of stroke.



Food for Thought

by Nancy Dell
Registered Dietician

Wanted: More Fruits And Vegetables...

Serving up fruits and veggies can be fun and easy.

Moms are good at reminding us to eat fruits and vegetables, and now it's your turn to help your family eat theirs. Fruits and vegetables are natural sources of important nutrients that can help keep growing children healthy and strong.

Children are more likely to eat fruits and vegetables if they see their parents enjoying the foods daily, and if there is a plentiful supply in the house. Filling kids' menus with lots of great-tasting fruits and vegetables can be easier than you may think. These simple tips can fit any family's hectic lifestyle ... and taste buds.

It's in the pasta sauce.

Some of your kids' favorites, like pasta sauce, provide a serving of vegetables and taste great. Serve up just a half-cup (per person) of tomato-based, jarred pasta sauce, and you're delivering a serving of vegetables. Add finely chopped carrots or spinach to the sauce for extra veggie power.

Get started on the right fruit.

Add bananas or fresh or frozen strawberries to

your cereal and pancakes, served with a six-ounce glass of 100-percent fruit or vegetable juice. Just half a banana, seven strawberries, or a three-quarter cup of 100-percent fruit or vegetable juice each equals one serving.

Veggie up your meals.

Cook up your favorite pasta meal with extra legumes, peas, or corn. In fact, just a half-cup of cooked vegetables (including most beans) equals one serving.

Pull up an apron.

Your kids may be likely to eat fruits and veggies if they help prepare them. Make a veggie-packed "pizza face" for lunch; use a small piece of pita bread for the "face," and spread with pizza or pasta sauce. Decorate with carrot shreds, sweet peppers, tomatoes, black olive slices, spinach, and cheese.

Snack smart.

Cut apples or bananas and serve with peanut butter or yogurt dip. Sticks or rounds of cucumbers, tomatoes, or carrots can be served with salsa or low-fat dip. Or, pack a bag of dried fruit for snacks on the road. One half-cup of raw veggies, fresh fruit, or a quarter-cup of dried fruit is each one serving.

Young children need the same nutrients as adults, but in different amounts. In 1999, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) created the Food Guide Pyramid for Young Children (ages two to six), which is designed to make healthful eating more simple and realistic for parents and their kids.

Nancy Dell, MS, is a registered dietitian in private practice in Feeding Hills and the media representative for the Massachusetts Dietetic Association. She can be reached at 850 Springfield St., Suite 4, Feeding Hills, MA 01030; (413) 786-2957. Accepting Tufts, Secure Horizons, and Harvard Pilgrim.

Support Groups, Courses, And Programs Offered By Noble Hospital In Westfield

SUPPORT GROUPS

Alcoholics Anonymous: Sunday evenings, 8:00 to 9:00 p.m. In Conference Room A at Noble Hospital, 115 West Silver Street, Westfield. Free of charge. All are welcome.

Diabetes: Tuesday, April 25th, 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. In Conference Room A at Noble Hospital. Free of charge and open to individuals who have diabetes and their support persons.

For more information, call Karen Ranen, M.S., R.N., C.D.E., at 572-5178.

Caregivers' Support Group: Wednesday, April 26th, 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. In the Bronson Music Room at Noble Hospital.

On the second and last Wednesdays of each month, Noble Visiting Nurse and Hospice Services offers this support group for those who are caring for someone with a life-threatening illness. Hospice families, staff, and community members are invited to participate.

Call Kim Cressotti, R.N., at Noble Visiting Nurse and Hospice Services for more information at 562-7049.

Bereavement Group: Wednesday, April 19th, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. In the Bronson Music Room at Noble Hospital.

On the first, second, and third Wednesdays of every month, Noble Visiting Nurse and Hospice Services offers this support group for people who have experienced the death of a loved one within the past year. We invite all Hospice families and anyone in the community to participate.

For more information, please call Kim Cressotti, R.N., at Noble Visiting Nurse and Hospice Ser-

vices at 562-7049.

PROGRAMS/COURSES/CLINICS

Cosmetic/Plastic Surgery with Dr. Gary Russolillo: Tuesday, April 18th, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. In Conference Room B at Noble Hospital.

Gary Russolillo, M.D., will present a lecture about Body Contouring Surgeries, Lip Enhancements, Facial Surgeries, and Skin Care Procedures. Also included will be a live chemical peel demonstration.

The presentation will be followed by a complimentary personal consultation. Registration is free, and seating is limited.

Pre-registration is required; call Noble Hospital's Health Beat at 568-2328.

CPR Course: Wednesday, April 19th and 26th, 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. In the Education Department/Ground Floor at Noble Hospital.

This two-part course provides American Heart Association Adult, Child, and Infant Certification. The cost of the course is \$45.

To register or obtain more information, call Noble Hospital's CPR Line at 572-5172.

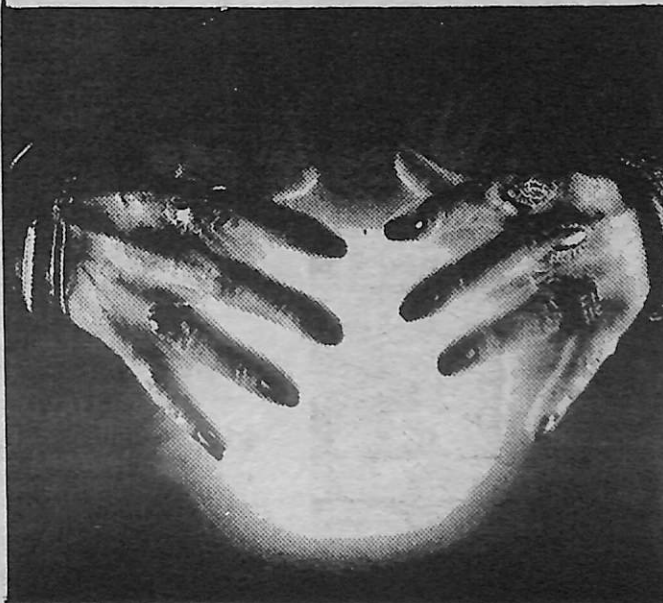
16th Annual Run for a Noble Cause - 5K Road Race and Kids' Race: Saturday, April 29th. Please note earlier start times - 5K Race begins at 9:00 a.m.; Kids' Race at 9:45 a.m. (Check-in begins at 7:30 a.m.) Sponsored by Noble Hospital.

Registration is limited to 350. The registration fee is \$10 in advance or \$12 on the day of the race. The Kids' Race is free. Awards will be given for all divisions.

Call Noble Hospital's Health Beat for a registration form or for more information at 568-2328.

READINGS BY SOPHIA

Palm & Tarot Card Readings — "Grand Opening"



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No matter what your involvement: marriage, love affairs, business or courtship, my advice cannot fail to help you. Tells past, present and future. Answer all questions. If you are sad or worried, find out why. By reading for you, I can tell what is causing your displeasure with yourself, your job, or if your home life is failing. Are troubles, have personal problems? Has your luck seemed to turn away from you? So, for peace of mind, a directional media in your everyday life or just a pleasant experience; no matter what may be your hope, fear or ambition, I guarantee to tell it all before you utter a word to me. Please take this opportunity to accept my personal invitation that you'll visit me soon. I have the time, patience and the knowledge of 30 years' experience to help you.

PSYCHIC CONNECTION

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Arts

Last Week's Solution...

BAAL	SPIN	ULTRA
ELSE	TOTO	LEWIS
TO HAVE	WORD	SWITH
SEESAW	MET	GAY
TRES	ABE	
SEM	IDES	ARMADA
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NED	LORD	
CAL	CRO	AORTAS
ATALO	SSFOR	WORDS
DOVER	ERNE	SUET
SIPATE	DIED	SEMS

ACROSS

- 1 S. African dialect
- 5 Pickle that puckers
- 9 "— Dancing" (Swayze film)
- 14 Grist for warfare
- 15 Actress/singer Adams
- 16 Dote on
- 17 Close to
- 18 Robin Cook novel
- 19 Man-made fabric
- 20 Man in charge of 50A
- 23 — Pro Nobis
- 24 Office holders
- 25 — and void
- 26 Aaron's club
- 27 — in girth
- 28 Tree
- 31 Wide tie
- 34 Indian princess
- 35 Johnson of "Laugh In"
- 36 Airborne troopers of 50A
- 39 Broadway hit
- 40 Avenues for short
- 41 Broadway lights
- 42 Tide type
- 43 God of war
- 44 Somme season
- 45 Move about
- 46 Rolling stock abbr.
- 47 Queen of the fairies
- 50 D-Day landing sites
- 54 Soap plant
- 55 ——— camera
- 56 Jason's ship
- 57 Poe's bird
- 58 Mild expletive
- 59 Tree covering
- 60 One of the media
- 61 Ferber

DOWN

- 1 Ballroom dance
- 2 Mid-East ruler
- 3 Iowa commune
- 4 History
- 5 Pour
- 6 Matinee figures
- 7 Tree branch
- 8 Knowledge
- 9 Treat as a child
- 10 Short poem
- 11 Thespian's plum
- 12 Actor Donahue
- 13 Urge
- 21 Lasso
- 22 Hero Murphy
- 26 S. African settler
- 27 Abates
- 28 Younger Guthrie
- 29 Tommie's rifle
- 30 Pianist Myra
- 31 Tennis star Arthur
- 32 Strike breaker once
- 33 Bassinet
- 34 Where levees are located
- 35 Author James
- 37 Ave —
- 38 Fed the kitty
- 43 Greek capital
- 44 Printing errors
- 45 Comic Soupy
- 46 Cato was one
- 47 Wall printing
- 48 Truly irate
- 49 Reader's friends
- 50 First name of 20A
- 51 Stir
- 52 Annie to Daddy Warbucks
- 53 Pokes
- 54 Painter Jean

Looking For All Past Academy Of Artistic Performance Dancers

Calling all past Academy of Artistic Performance Dancers! Celebrate our 25th Silver Anniversary by joining us for Recital 2000. Get out those dancing shoes and batons!!

From our beginning studio on Elm Street in West Springfield to our large facility in Feeding Hills, many of you have been a part of our past. Time goes by, but we remember all the people who have made The Academy of Artistic Performance a special place.

We will hold a practice (a familiar word from your past) at the Agawam Studio, 1325 Springfield St., Feeding Hills on Saturday, May 13th from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon for all who wish to participate. Come and bring a friend.

Please pass the word to any former student or parents of former students you may know as our address contacts are somewhat limited.

Please note that this group is open to any former students now over the age of 18. We hope to see you May 13th.

Please note that the recital dates for 2000 are June 16th and 17th. If you need to reach us at The Academy, please call Nancy Locke at 413-786-7683. Celebrate Recital 2000 and a part of your past with us!!

Best local news...

Meet The Master - by Dick Mastroianni...

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60								61			62			

"Introduction To Babysitting" Program To Start On Apr. 26th At Agawam Public Library

The Agawam Public Library will offer its annual INTRODUCTION TO BABYSITTING series for youngsters aged 10 and up, on Wednesdays, April 26th, May 3rd and 10th, from 4:00-5:00 p.m.

Health and safety issues will be covered by Registered Nurse Hilda Bartnik, Fire Inspector Michael Mercadante, and Police Officer Karen Langevin. Library staff members Jeanne Hofmann and Wendy McAnanama will offer suggestions for age-appropriate activities when babysitting young children. Certificates will be awarded to everyone who attends all three sessions.

Registration is limited to Agawam and Feeding Hills residents who have not previously par-

ticipated in the program, and will continue through April 24th, or until the series is filled to capacity.

Registration forms are available at the library Circulation Desk. They must be completed by either the participant or a parent. No reservations will be taken over the phone.

ADVERTISER NEWS

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symphony
orchestra



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RUSSIAN REVELRY

April 15 AT 8 PM

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PERFORMING "SECRET AGENT MAN": back row — Tiffany Moran, Sara Cote, Jessica Kodess, and Lauren Maloney; front row — Ashley Fink, Laura Cote, Kelsey Reed, and Kaitlyn O'Connell.



SHOOTING STAR DANCERS in the Senior Competition Group: Brenda Hadden, Candace Flaherty, Karen Hadden, Patrick LaFleur, and Erinn Gormley. (Missing from photo: Michelle Cote and Jessica Roy.)

"The Food Dude"

by John Walters
WHYN AM 560



Hi, I am John Walters. I'm the Food Dude. Some of you may already listen to my radio show. I broadcast every Saturday afternoon from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. on WHYN AM 560. My show is dedicated to helping you have more fun in the kitchen. Now that my show is syndicating around the country, I was looking for a way to stay in touch with all of my local listeners and restaurant friends.

You may not know that I am a local talent. I live right here in Agawam. My kids were in the Agawam School System. I like Agawam and I want to see it prosper.

Each week you will be able to get recipes, food information, restaurant highlights, and food entertainment right here in *The Agawam Advertiser News*. I hope that you will tell your friends about my new newspaper column and my radio show.

Here in *The Agawam Advertiser News* you will be able to find out what the topic of conversation will be on the next show and who the guest will be. I hope that you will look forward to each issue of *The Agawam Advertiser News* and my new column.

Let's start off with something that is basic but very important. All soups and sauces start with a good stock. Start with uncooked bones: beef, poultry, or seafood. Vegetables should be raw. You can use a *mir pouix*. This is a bundle of herbs to enhance the stock.

Use your imagination for the combination of herbs. Start by browning the bones. Use a high heat oven. Now, transfer your bones to a stock pot. Add your aromatic vegetables: onions, celery, carrots... a bay leaf or two. Now, add your water to cover the bones and vegetables.

Simmer 'til the flavor has come to the stock. Now add salt and pepper to taste. When making a meat stock, some of the fatty pieces can be added to enhance the flavors. For poultry, use all of the normally unwanted parts (wing tips, necks, etc.). Skim your stock at the end or just refrigerate overnight. Then just remove the excess fat.

Have a great week and enjoy your soup.
JOHN WALTERS, "The Food Dude," can be heard each Saturday afternoon from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. on WHYN AM 560.

Shooting Star Dancers In 'On Stage America'

Shooting Star Dance Center dance team members competed in "On Stage America Dance Competition" in Waterbury, Connecticut on March 17th-19th.

This was the dance team members' second competition and they did very well. Senior dance team members are Brenda Hadden, Karen Hadden, Michelle Cote, Candace Flaherty, Jessica Roy, Erinn Gormley, and Patrick LaFleur. Senior dance team members received Good awards for both "One Bad Stud" and "No Shelter."

Junior dance team members are Kelsey Reed, Tiffany Moran, Laura Cote, Sara Cote, Lauren Maloney, Ashley Fink, Jessica Kodess, and Kaitlyn O'Connell. Junior dance team members received a Gold award for their dance, "Secret Agent Man."

Soloists Michelle Cote and Patrick LaFleur received High Gold awards; Karen Hadden, Jessica Kodess, and Laura Cote received Gold awards; and Jessica Roy, Erinn Gormley, and Candace Flaherty received High Silver awards.

Patrick LaFleur and Michelle Cote also received a Gold award for their duet dance number and received a special award for the "Perfect Pair."

Other special awards were given to Karen Hadden for "Red, Hot and Jazzy," and Patrick LaFleur received an award for "Mr. Charm."

Congratulations to all the dance team members and good luck at the next competition on April 30th.



PERFORMING "NO SHELTER": back row — Jessica Roy, Karen Hadden, Erinn Gormley, and Brenda Hadden; front row — Michelle Cote, Patrick LaFleur, and Candace Flaherty.

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Education



*From The
AHS Guidance
Office...*

by Judy Cohen
Agawam High School
Guidance Counselor

Contracts

A contract is an agreement between two parties or more that sets the parameters decided upon by the involved parties. We usually think of contracts when they are used in law and business; however, they are also used by schools and families and serve a wonderfully useful purpose!

I think of a contract as an agreement. If you agree to something and I agree to something, then it probably will be smooth sailing. Ponder the following.

Mom comes into my office. Her son is doing very poorly in school. Groundings have been meted out, but to no avail. Mom and Dad are clearly at their wits' end! What to do?

All they want is a little peace and tranquility. I call the young man into my office without his parents. I figure he will probably talk more freely to me alone, and I have already heard his parents' side of the story. Through the discussion, I find that he's very upset with his parents. Why am I not surprised?

He feels some of the household demands made on him are unfair. When I ask him if he has spoken to his parents and shared those feelings, he looks up at me and responds, "Nah ... what good would it do? They never listen to me anyway. They have their own agenda. Mine doesn't cut it with them and they start yelling right away. Then, before I know it, I'm yelling, too, and nothing gets accomplished."

After more discussion, we both come to the conclusion that Joe is getting bad grades to get back at his folks. In psychobabble, he is being passive aggressive and decides to do poorly to get back at his parents. We examine this logic and find some holes.

"I mean, whom are you really hurting, Joe?" I ask. Thinking it over, he realizes he is hurting himself, but he hopes he is hurting his parents, too, since they deserve to be hurt. After all, they are upsetting him, so why shouldn't he upset them? "Ah," I continue, "but at what consequence?"

Joe is angry with his folks; his folks are angry with him. Clearly, there is turmoil and anger. In order to vent these emotions so they can be dealt with, I decided that Joe and his folks should be in my office together. After all, my place is kind of neutral and non-threatening. Perhaps, as a facilitator, I can get everyone to air his or her concerns in a calm fashion.

When they all enter my office, it is interesting to see how they place themselves in the chairs. Mom and Dad sit very close to each other on one side of the room and Joe takes his chair and moves it away from his parents to the other side of the room.

It doesn't take a rocket scientist to read beneath the body language and sense their discomfort with each other. I give each one time to speak without the other interrupting. That is essential!

Interruptions make one lose one's train of thought and sort of diminish what one is saying. After airing their troubles, I look at each one and tell him that I think I have a plan. I talk to them about writing a contract ... nothing fancy, nothing that you have to have a doctorate to write, just a simple contract or agreement stating five things that they would each like to have happen.

Each would be committed to make changes. Moreover, each would become aware of his responsibilities. An important part would be that Joe would think that his parents care enough to listen to his wants, too, and to incorporate them into the contract. Truly, the contract would become a written compromise.

Well, you could have heard a pin drop after my proposal, then discussion ensued and both parents and Joe leave, promising to draft the contract and get back to me. They all feel empowered. Now they have a plan to help them rectify an unpleasant situation.

The next morning, the phone rings. Dad calls to tell me that they had sat down around the kitchen table and discussed each major point that was written down to determine if the point was viable, if it could be followed, if it were fair and if it were workable. He couldn't believe how much they all had communicated. Finally, the contract was written according to each one's needs.

SEE JUDY COHEN - Page 34...

Pack 75 Knows How To Keep Busy



IN TOP PHOTO: Den 5/Pack 75 from Sacred Heart went on a recent tour of the Agawam Police Department (including the dispatcher's station, the fingerprinting room, and various cells). Pictured above with Police Officer Robert Burke are Corey Fennyery, Jake DePalo, Jarett Maynard, Ryan Liebel, Mason Dunn McDonagh, Joey Scalfani, Jacob Ferreira, Nicholas Ferreira, and Matthew Hastings. **IN PHOTO BELOW:** Second-year Webelos under Den Leader Susan Alvanos recently received the "Arrow of Light" award — Christopher Alvanos, John Thomas McCarthy, Nicholas Suska, Zachary Smith, and Brian Foley.



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Do you want to have fun, be creative, and meet new friends? Then be a GO Girl!! You can choose from a wide range of activities to make your own daily schedule. From art to computers, dancing, theatre, science or sports there's an activity just for you.

DATES	
Session I	July 3 - July 7
Session II	July 10 - July 14
Session III	July 17 - July 21

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Ag. Middle School Counselor's News

by Thomas F. Dacey
Middle School Counselor

This year's pillo polo program was recently completed at the Middle School. Pillo polo, a type of floor hockey, was played after school in the gym. Competition was among the sixth-grade homerooms, and room 303 emerged as the school champion.

Report cards for the third marking period were issued on Friday, April 7th. If they have not already done so, parents are asked to please sign and return their child's report card stub to the school as soon as possible. It is important for the school to know that the report cards are brought home promptly.

In addition, the sixth-grade students will shortly be receiving their program planning guide for seventh grade. This guide will show which courses each student will be taking next year and during which part of the year they will be taking them.

The sixth-graders have choices only in the areas of music and language. There are three music programs available: chorus, band, and regular music class. Only one may be selected. In the language area, students may select either French or Spanish.

A letter to the sixth grade parents from the Junior High School will accompany each planning guide. This letter gives detailed information on some of the courses.

Sixth grade parents are requested to please sign and return their child's program planning guide as soon as they receive it. Parents should keep in mind that it is only a planning guide and not their child's final schedule.

Perry Lane Nursery School Still Has Openings For Fall

The Agawam Perry Lane Nursery School continues to have spaces available for the upcoming September 2000 school year.

Children must be four years-old by September 30, 2000 to enroll in Monday/Wednesday/Friday morning or afternoon sessions running from 9:00-11:30 a.m. or 12:30-3:00 p.m.

The registration fee for these sessions are \$75 a month to be paid at the first of every month with a \$4 snack fee to be paid at the first of every month.

Children must be three years-old by September 30, 2000 to enroll in Monday/Wednesday afternoon session running from 12:30-3:00 p.m. The registration fee for this session is \$60 a month to be paid at the first of every month with a \$3 snack fee to be paid in cash at the first of every month.

For further information or enrollment, please contact the Agawam Parks & Recreation Department at 821-0513.

Agawam High School Guidance Bulletin

COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES: Congratulations! Anthony Goodrow: Cornell University, Worcester Polytechnic Institute.

Lauren Kunkler: University of Rhode Island.

Amanda Sternowski: Rhode Island College.

Ket La: University of Massachusetts.

Victoria Fitchben: University of Massachusetts.

OPEN HOUSES: See your counselor for more information.

Quinnipiac University: Monday, May 15th, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

JUDY COHEN - from Page 33...

About a week passes. I call Joe in and ask how it's going. He tells me that the contract is posted on the refrigerator. If Joe wants to do something and Dad is quick to respond, "No," Joe has only to point to the terms of the contract.

Arguments are precluded from happening. In similar fashion, when the son balks at something, Mom and Dad turn to the contract and the negative discussion is ended. I tell them to review the contract after two weeks. Changes can be made if necessary.

I am happy to report that Joe's grades have continued to improve along with the conversation at home. Each member of the family is enjoying each other's company. No longer is anyone floundering in a sea of hostility; now each has fair boundaries, agreed upon ones. Clearly, the contract is working.

ADVERTISER NEWS

Pack 77 Enjoys "Cub Grub"...



IN TOP PHOTO: With the theme of "Cub Grub," St. John's Pack 77 recently held a make-your-own-sundae meeting. Tigers Steven Olivares, Vincent Graziano, Jack Cowell, Ben Flythe, and Patrick Shea get ready to check out the toppings, while Wolves Joseph Slaimen and Brian Toussaint wait for Assistant Leader Kathy Walsh to scoop up their ice cream. (In background: Jack Cowell's dad and Ben Flythe's mom.) **IN PHOTO BELOW:** Pack 77's Webelos Den 10 and Wolf Den 1 visited Maple Corner Farm in Granville, owned by Leon & Joyce Ripley. During the visit, Leon showed one of the huge tubs that collect the maple sap runoff during the maple season.



Happy 16th, "Biz"!



Love,
Mom, Dad, Jessica,
& Samantha

Happy 16th Birthday, R.J.!

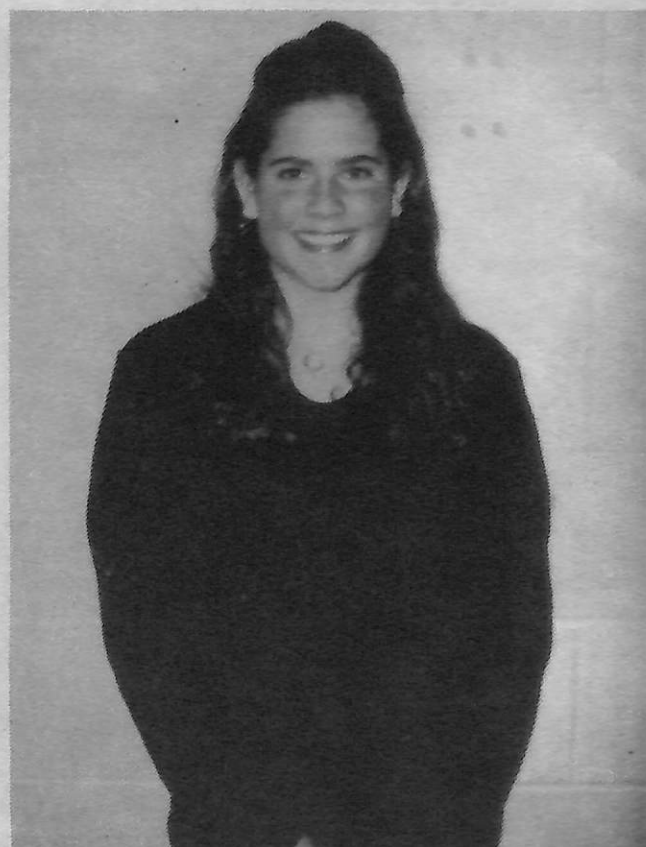
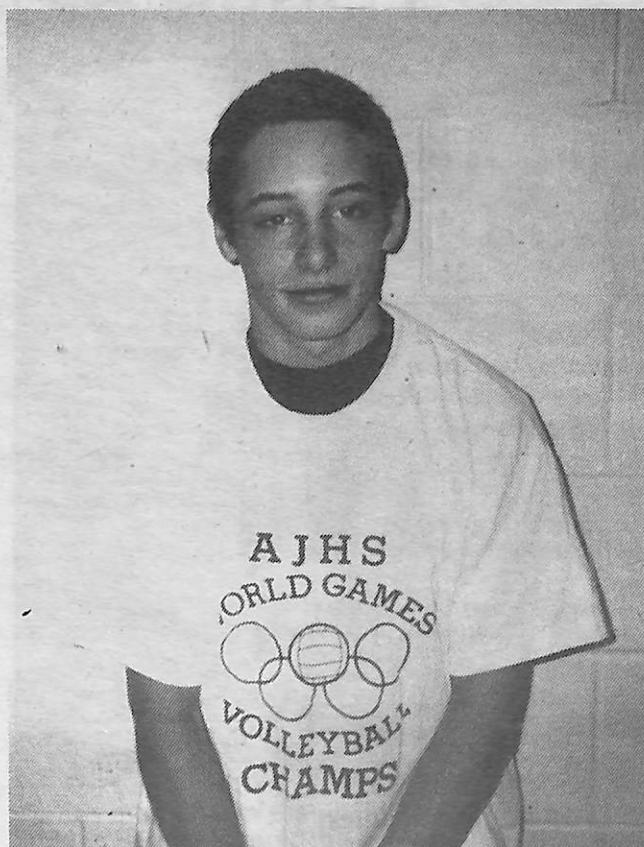
April 14th



Gotcha!

Love,
Mom, Dad, Michelle,
Matt, Benji & Cid

"Savings Bond" Winners At Agawam Junior High...



PICTURED ABOVE ARE pupils from Agawam Junior High School who were recently recognized as "Student Of the Month" savings bond winners (from left to right): Dan Mason (January's winner), Jillian Kos (December's winner), and Rebecca Leupo (February's winner). Advertiser News photos by Joan Lussier.

On Thursday, April 20th...

James Clark School PTO To Sell Raffle Tickets At Geissler's

Representatives from the James Clark School PTO will be selling raffle tickets in front of Geissler's Supermarket on Thursday, April 20th. The PTO's spring fundraiser raffle is in its final month of ticket sales.

The prize — a DisneyWorld trip with a value of \$3,000 — includes round-trip airfare, accommodations, and park hopper passes. Erin World Travel of Westfield is coordinating the trip.

Raffle tickets are \$1 each, or a book of six tickets for \$5. Tickets will be sold from now until May 1st. The drawing will be held on May 10th, and you don't need to be present to win.

Tickets may also be purchased from any James Clark School student or by calling Carla Chase, 789-3846; Ann Marie LaZazzera, 789-3141; or Cathy Blood, 786-5103.

David Kreps Attains Honor Roll Status At The Grammar School

David Kreps of Agawam has achieved second trimester honor roll at The Grammar School at Somersville in Somersville, Connecticut.

The Grammar School at Somersville is an accredited, independent school that enrolls children in full-day kindergarten through grade six from Northern Connecticut and the Greater Springfield areas.

On Saturday, May 13th...

Agawam Jr. Women's Club To Sponsor Scholarship Raffle

The Agawam Junior Women's Club is sponsoring a Scholarship Raffle on Saturday, May 13th at Geissler's from 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

First prize is a photo session and 11x14 framed portrait at a sitting location of your choice for your entire family, provided by Creative Images Photography, a \$500 value. Second prize is a Basket of Memories valued at \$50, and third prize is a Memory Album Kit valued at \$50.

The drawing is Saturday, May 13th at 2:00 p.m. at Geissler's. Winners need not be present to win. Tickets may be obtained by mail (\$1 for a ticket or \$5 for a book of six) and your name will be entered in the drawing.

They may also be purchased from any club member. Entries by mail must be received before May 12th to be considered.

The proceeds of the raffle will benefit the Agawam Junior Women's Club Scholarship Fund, which helps Agawam High School students who are attending a two-, three-, or four-year college.

The Agawam Junior Women's Club is a member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, Junior Membership.

* * *

For photo coverage in The AAN, call 786-7747 or 786-8137; however, please give us at least 72 hours' notice. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

* * *

On Tuesday, April 18th...

"Harry Potter Book Club" To Meet At The Agawam Library

The "Harry Potter Book Club" will meet in the Agawam Library Community Room on Tuesday, April 18th, from 2:00 to 3:30 p.m.

Activities will include a craft and a game based on characters in the Harry Potter series. Readers in grades four and up who have read at least one Harry Potter book are invited to join the club and share in the fun.

For further information, contact the Agawam Public Library (750 Cooper Street, Agawam) at 789-1550.

Spfld. Christian School Accepting Applications For Next School Year

Springfield Christian School, 627 State Street, Springfield, is accepting applications for the 2000-2001 school year.

Springfield Christian School provides education for students in kindergarten through 12th grade. Springfield Christian School furnishes young people an affordable, quality education from a distinctly biblical world-view, developing a Christian character and enabling them to impact the lives of others.

For more information on Springfield Christian School or to tour the facility, please call 732-5963.

\$\$\$ Opportunity \$\$\$ To Earn Extra Money

We are looking for several high school students to work school vacation, 4/15/00 through 4/22/00 (some after-school hours also available).

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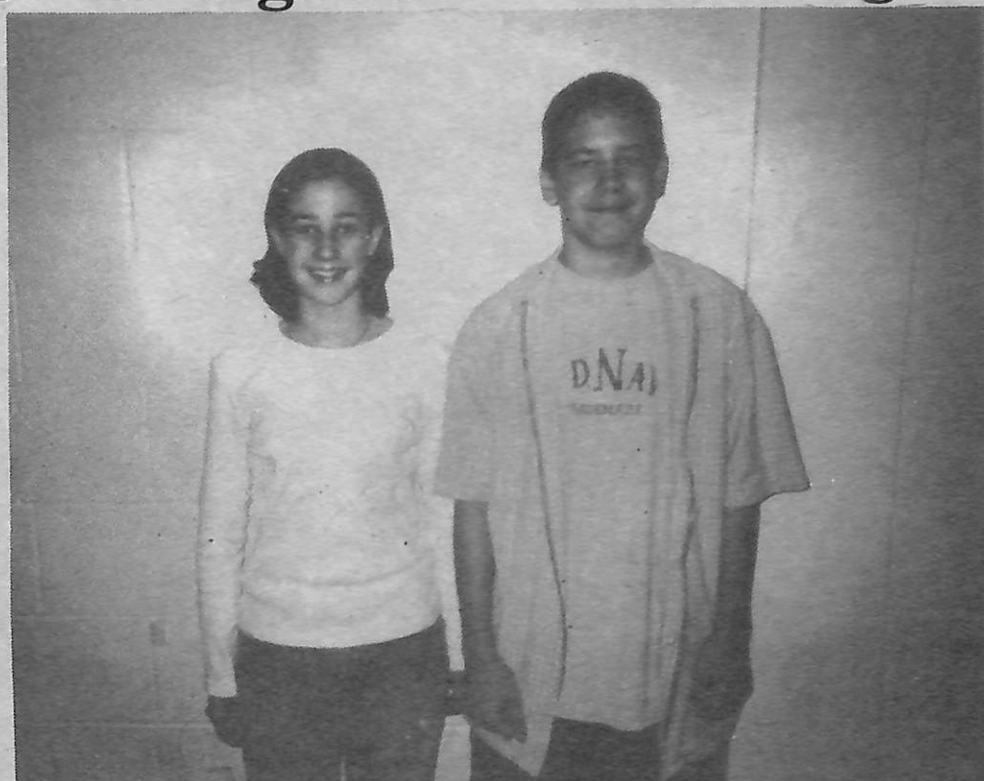
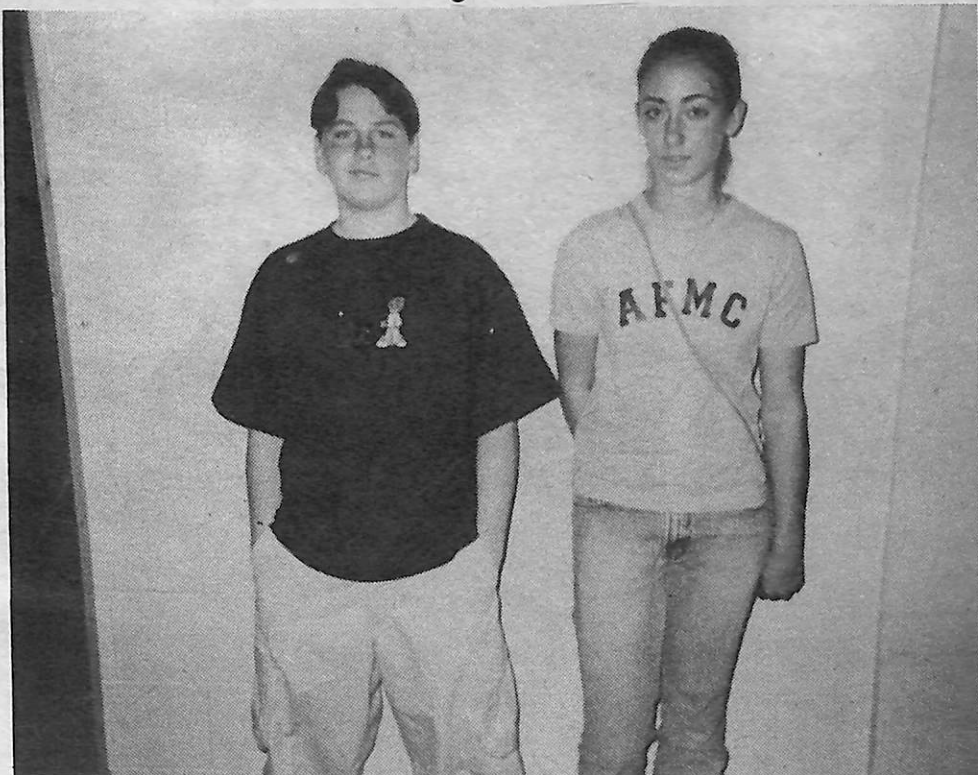
April 14, 15, 2000 at 8 p.m.

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CALL 413.565.5390



Noted "Phys. Ed. Students" At Agawam Junior High



THE ADMINISTRATION OF AGAWAM JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL is pleased to announce the latest "Physical Education Students of the Month": left photo — seventh-graders William Day and Jessica Pokora; right photo — eighth-graders Kelly Borkosky and Brandon Tassone. Advertiser News photos by Joan Lussier.

Tryouts Slated For Youth Cheerleaders' Pee Wee Squad

The Agawam Youth Cheerleaders' Pee Wee Squad will hold tryouts and registration for the 2000 cheerleading season at Robinson Park School on the following days:

Monday, April 24th, 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.; Tuesday, April 25th, 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.; and Wednesday, April 26th (tryouts), 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

A \$1 fee will be charged to cover tryout expenses.

All children who are entering grades three and four in September 2000 will be eligible for the Pee Wee Squad.

Please note that a parent must be present at registration, as a child cannot participate without the required consent forms, signed by a parent or legal guardian.

For more information, please call Sue Svadeba at 786-2592 or Irene Lemieux at 789-3071.

* * *

Our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon; however, we appreciate any articles, press releases, etc., that can be brought in on Mondays. (Our office will be open on Monday, April 17th — Patriots' Day.)

* * *

Bob Villa Would Be Proud...



DEN 5 SCOUTS from Cub Pack 75 at Sacred Heart Church recently went to Home Depot in Wilbraham in order to pick up supplies to complete their first woodworking project. The project was a heart-shaped footstool, and the Cubs later painted them at a den meeting. The Cubs who participated were Jarett Maynard, Ryan Liebel, Mason Dunn McDonagh, Jake DePalo, Colby Cannizzaro, Jacob Ferreira, Nicholas Ferreira, and Matthew Hastings. (Jarett's sister, Danielle, and Colby's sister, Chapin, also accompanied the Cubs to Home Depot.)

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Sports

Schoolboy Varsity Baseball...

Brownies Off To A .500 Start For 2000 Season

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

The Agawam High Brownie baseball team is off to a 1-1 start. Last Friday, April 7th, they beat visiting Southwick, 15-2. On Monday afternoon, they were on the road, losing to tough Minnechaug Regional, 12-7.

In the Southwick game, things began the Rams' way when starting pitcher Brian Lapins gave up a leadoff homerun. After that, however, it was all Agawam. Lapins settled down in the second, striking out the side. The Brownies scored eight in that inning, highlighted by a Tony LeClair homerun, which drove in three of those eight runs. Singles in the second came off the bats of Derek Mercadante, Shawn Biebel, and Jack Pearson.

Marc Barcomb took the hill for the third and gave up an unearned run on an error. The Brownies were back at it in their half of the inning by putting five more on the board. Things started out with Corey Federico and Biebel drawing walks. A Scott Harlin single sent Federico home. A fielder's choice from Pearson drove in Biebel after he'd stolen second. Brian St. Jean walked, loading the bases.

Mercadante, who would have two singles and a triple on the afternoon, singled hard down the first base line and Harlin came home, followed by Pearson and St. Jean. The score stood at 13-3 going into the fourth.

Rams Shut Down Through Six

Coach Peter Clark sent Dan Boissonneault to the mound. He shut down the Rams through six. Agawam scored one in the fifth after St. Jean was hit by a pitch and LeClair drove him in with a drive to left. On that play, St. Jean beat out a good throw from the outfield.

Agawam scored its final run in the sixth. St. Jean came in to mop up in the seventh. Lapins (1 run, 1 ER, 5 strikeouts, no walks) got the win.

Things were slightly different at Minnechaug. The Brownies went down, 4-1, after four. Lapins started that one and gave way to Barcomb (who



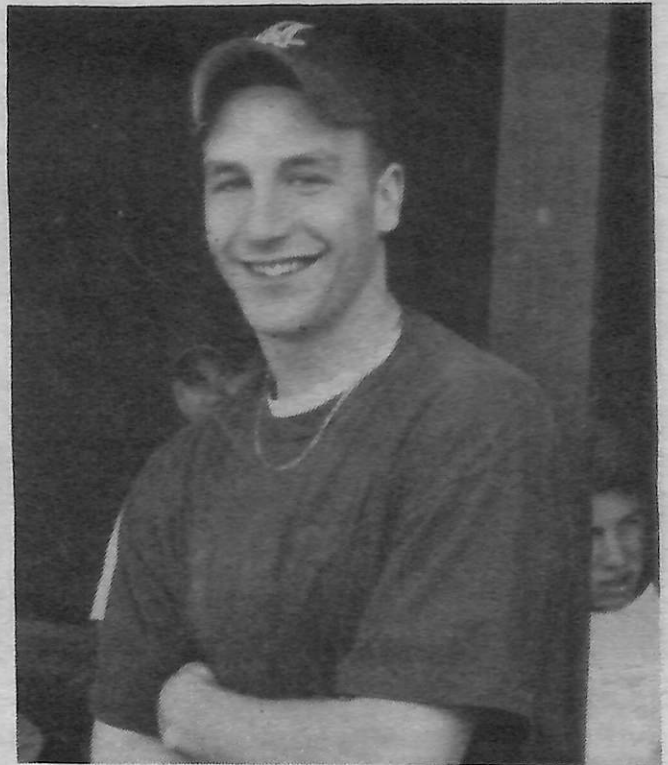
COACH PETER CLARK

would get the loss) in the fifth. Agawam managed four in the top of the inning before the Falcons touched up the Brownie junior. Boissonneault came in for the sixth and Brian Chechile finished up.

Brandon Donovan went 2-4 for Agawam with an RBI. Pearson had a double. LeClair also had a double in the four-run fifth and barely missed a homerun in another at bat. Aaron Gilbert went 2-4 with three runs scored. Neither St. Jean nor Mercadante (knee) played in this one. So Agawam was without two of their best players.

"Yeah, we had some defensive letdowns and made a few mental errors," Clark said afterwards.

At presstime, the Brownies were getting ready to host another tough club, Chicopee, on Wednesday, April 12th.



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Girls' Lacrosse Vs Minnechaug...

Brownies Bow To The Visiting Falcons, 9-7

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

In its 9-7 lacrosse loss to visiting Minnechaug Regional Tuesday afternoon, the Agawam High girls had the first half mostly their way. The second, however, was all Falcons, the defending Western Mass. champs. In this one, the Brownies let a 5-2 lead slip away.

Agawam went to 1-1 with the loss. Minnechaug rose to 2-0.

Minnechaug scored first, 3:38 into the half. Then Agawam, buoyed by some great goal-keeping by senior Mary Elizabeth Dupelle, began to shock the defending champs. Agawam's first score came at 4:09 when senior Kate Shannon broke in off the right wing and drove the ball home, tying things at one.

Agawam's next opportunity happened 20 seconds later. Sarah Prussman got roughed up in the Falcon crease after a left wing rush and was awarded a free shot. The senior made the most of her chance, scoring at 4:29 and the hosts were up, 2-1.

Locals' Transition Game Right On

They weren't done. The Brownies' transition game was right on, which was greatly responsible for their first-half success. Also, the Minnechaug defense wasn't doubling down on senior Anne Paquette - a big first half mistake. Steph Ceccarini and Paquette worked a deal on the right side of the Falcons' goal. Paquette got hit and got the free shot. The result, a Paquette goal (her first of four) and a 3-1 Brownie advantage at 4:58.

While the Agawam offense was cooking, the defense, behind Ceccarini and junior Becca Naciewicz (along with Dupelle) was fired up as well. They were beating Minnechaug to ground balls and constantly knocking the ball out of the Falcon sticks. Ten minutes in, Paquette, employing her usual aggressive style, worked to the front of the Minnechaug goal and pulled the trigger. Make it 4-1, Brownies.

Three minutes later, after junior Lauren Kida and seniors Laura Reveruzzi and Sheri Benton continually scooped away ground balls to foil the Falcon attack, Paquette took a lead pass and rushed down the center to score Agawam's fifth goal of the half and a stunning 5-1 advantage.

After that, both defenses dominated until the final minute when the Falcons got their second goal, making it 5-2 at the intermission.

Agawam had eight shots on goal. Minnechaug checked in with six.

In the second, it seemed as though the first-half Falcons had climbed back on their bus and an entirely different team came out. They were marking up now. And they might have gotten a boost from an incident 1:48 in. Shannon and Minnechaug Lauren Kelly were battling for position behind the Falcons' goal. There was contact. Then Kelly threw a punch at Shannon. The Brownie got a yellow card and two minutes of bench time. The feisty Falcon, seeing red, saw something else the same color, a red card, which meant the rest of the game on the bench.

Agawam, which to that point had been quicker to the ball, suddenly seemed a step slower and the Falcons scored at 3:02. Twelve seconds later, they did it again to trail 5-4. At that point, Brownie Coach Cindy Grieve called a timeout to settle her kids down.

Falcons Not To Be Denied

The Falcons would not be denied, however. They tied it at 6:25 and went ahead four minutes later, 6-5. With 13 minutes left, they went up 7-5. The Brownies were trying, but with Paquette now double-teamed every time she touched the ball, times were tough.

Benton had a good chance and just missed an open corner with 7:45 to go. She got a free shot off that effort, but got robbed by Falcons' goalkeeper Jenna Koretz. Amanda Sternowski had her shot blocked a minute later on another nice effort by Koretz.

Minnechaug would widen its margin to 8-5 with 3:55 to go, capping a 6-0 run. Benton broke it with her second score at 2:42. But the Falcons sealed it up with two late goals for the win.

Agawam came in with six second-half shots on goal for a game total of 11. Minnechaug recorded 12 for a total of 18.

Agawam would meet Amherst Regional on Wednesday, April 12th at presstime.

If you've brought photos to our office for wedding announcements, scouting events, athletic teams, etc., we encourage you to pick them up during the month of April.

Girls' Softball Preview...

Brownies Lookin' Good With Early Record Of 4-0

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

Agawam High softball is off to an outstanding start with a 4-0 record. Coach Deb Lickley, in her 11th season at the helm, earlier took a look at her team and seemed happy with what she had after the Brownies escaped with a 7-5 home win over the pesty South Hadley Tigers at cold and wind-swept Harmon Smith Field.

One of her premier players is four-year catcher Dianna DiStefano, all All-Western Mass. returnee. "She is probably the best softball catcher in Western Mass.," the coach smiled. "Dianna is dedicated and as a catcher, she is great at running our defense."

Lickley has the luxury of having three kids at first, Vicky Taylor, Tiff Blackman, and Keegan Clark. All are veterans save for Taylor, who is just a freshman and the only one on the squad. Blackman and Clark can also play second.

Shortstop is held down by veteran junior Jill Gendron, another All-Western Mass. returnee. "She is All-Western Mass. caliber and can handle any ball hit to her," Lickley noted.

Season. "Cait may not be that experienced at third, but has an inner quality that makes you sure she can do the job," Lickley said.

Veteran senior Jen Lyman will hold down the leftfield spot. The coach noted that Lyman is probably one of the best kids she ever coached.

Speedster Amanda Merola has the tough job of playing the vast expanses of centerfield up at Harmon Smith Field. "Amanda can track down just about any ball hit out there because she can run like the wind," Lickley smiled.

A Couple Newcomers

A couple of junior newcomers, Lisa Bienna and Jen Bishop, will get the nod in rightfield.

Sophomore Katie Ludwig, a newcomer from Southwick who is at AHS on the School Choice Program, and Blackman will do most of the pitching and have big shoes to fill in the graduated Ali Jackobek and Lindsay Mason. Senior Jen Burke, also a newcomer, can throw if need be, as can junior Danielle Bachini.

The coach credits the development of the pitching staff to assistant Kathy Georgina.

As far as hitting goes, she feels they will be at least as good as last year's 13-9 team, which grabbed a ninth playoff seed and went two games, beating Holyoke before losing to Cathedral.

Boys' Track...

AHS Loses Season-Opening Meet To HCC

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

The Agawam High boys' track team opened its season Tuesday afternoon at Holyoke Community College against Holyoke High.

It was not a good day for track because of the miserable weather. Agawam lost, 79-57. "The weather was indeed bad," Coach Bill Dillon noted, then added, "but it was the same for both teams."

Agawam did have some first-place finishes. Ryan Malanson was tops in the shot put at 39'10½". Justin Mercieri took the discus with a spin of 117'3". The 110 high hurdles went to Adam Sprague in 18.7. He also won the 300-meter hurdle with a time of 47.5. Chris Tedone took the 400-meter run, running a 56.5.

There were also some Brownie personal bests: Sprague in the high hurdles and Tedone's 400-meter effort were two. Phil Sampson's 134' heave in the javelin was a personal best for him as was Steve Atkinson's 5.14-mile.

Two kids qualified for the Pioneer Valley Individuals; Tedone and Sampson. Brian Michel's 5'8" high jump qualified him for the Western Mass. Tournament.

Sampson was second in the javelin. Atkinson was second in the mile. Tim Chretien took a second in the 400 in 59 flat. The 4x400 relay team of Mercieri, Chretien, Steve Messina, and Tedone came in second. Cross-country runner Tony Goodrow was third in the two-mile with a time of 11:36. "Tony just out-kicked at the end," the coach noted.

"It was a tough loss. Holyoke is a lot tougher this year, I was pleased by our kids' efforts. They're young and in time, they'll improve," Dillon said.

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ADVERTISER NEWS

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Girls' Varsity Tennis...

Brownies Fall To East Longmeadow And Cathedral

On Thursday, April 6th, the Agawam High School girls varsity tennis team lost to East Longmeadow in the season-opening contest.

In first singles, the Brownies' Kaitlin White fell to Megan Donn, 1-6, 1-6. Although the East Longmeadow athlete played an outstanding match, White actually made the match seem closer than the score indicates. Pounding groundstrokes, both girls ran all over the court.

Liz Stieg, in the second singles position for AHS, defeated Caitlin MacKenzie, 6-3, 6-3, and was the Brownies' sole victor of the day. Playing in her characteristically backboard style, Stieg frustrated and annoyed her opponent. With her quick feet, she ran down almost every ball.

In third singles, Kelly Webb of AHS experienced defeat at the hands of Natalee Shea, 3-6, 3-6. Webb played doubles last year, but she decided to give singles a try this season. She and her East Longmeadow opponent were the last match finished, as most games went to several deuces.

Jen Jutte and Lisa Niedziela, representing Agawam in first doubles, lost to 0-6, 2-6 to the duo of Desiree Elliot and Jen Wood. Moving up from second doubles last year, the Brownie tandem have to face the tougher competition. According to Brownie Coach Mary Wolochowicz, "Desiree and Jen were the better team today, making the put away more often than Jen and Lisa."

In second doubles action, AHS's Emily Morten and Brittany Shields bowed to Lori Overlook and Rebecca Lavelle, 2-6, 4-6. These two Brownies moved up from exhibition players last year. As the match progressed, they began to gain more confidence and play better. "There were times when the points played on our last court were outstanding," stated Wolochowicz.

On Monday, April 10th, Agawam fell to Cathedral, 2-3, in a highly competitive contest.

The Brownies' Kaitlin White was defeated by Beth Bryson, 1-6, 1-6, in first singles. Both competitors hit ground strokes into the wind and the snow; however, the score does not do justice to the quality of the play.



THE MEMBERS OF THIS YEAR'S girls' varsity tennis team at Agawam High School. Back row: Kerri Merrimen, Marylen Grozinger, Lisa Niedziela, Liz Stieg, Julia Spear, Jen Jutte, Brittany Shields, and Coach Mary Wolochowicz. Front row: Lissa Asta-Ferrero, Kristen Berry, Kat Demetron, Kelly Webb (co-captain), Kaitlin White (co-captain), Jen Leupo, Kaitlin O'Brien, and Emily Morton.

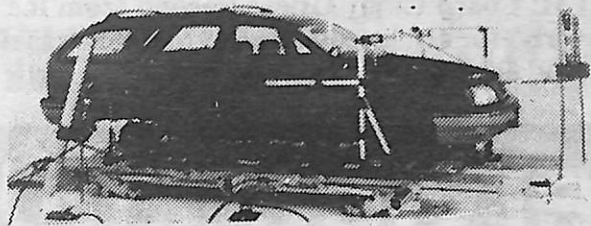
In second singles, Liz Stieg was dominated by Panther Kim Carabetta, 1-6, 4-6. Stieg finally found someone who could run with her. They battled throughout the afternoon, with both of them hustling after the balls and playing the backboard. The Brownie, unfortunately, was at the short end of this match.

Kelly Webb won the third singles match for AHS over Sara Pi, 4-6, 6-4, 6-1. Webb got off to a good start, but then her Panther opponent fought back to win the set. In the second set, there was a scoring problem, and that was all that the Brownie needed as an incentive to finish off the freshman. In the third set, it was Webb who dominated in this hotly-contested match.

In first doubles action, AHS's Jen Jutte and

Lisa Niedziela were victorious over Liz Wolfe and Mary Fullon, 6-4, 7-5. According to Coach Wolochowicz, "Jen and Lisa played an up-and-down match all afternoon. They played tough and went ahead, and then had lapses which dropped them behind. Luckily, the 'aheads' outnumbered the 'behinds' so the kids could pull off the win."

The duo of Emily Morton and Brittany Shields lost to Cathedral's Angela Decosmo and Sara Patashnik, 3-6, 3-6. In their second start, they had a good, close match; all four girls made good shots, as well as shots they wish they could take back. These four young players went into many deuce games, but Cathedral pulled out the close match.



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Girls' Lacrosse Preview...

Grieve Assesses Team's Strengths

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

Last season, the Agawam High girls' lacrosse team went 11-7 and were the fourth seed in the playoffs. Coach Cindy Grieve took a look at her club this time around.

They start from the goal out, which is manned by senior veteran Mary Elizabeth Dupelle, who has been playing that position for what seems like forever. "She has always been a good leader and should be one this year," Grieve said. Another senior, Valerie Cross, could also see some action in goal.

Lauren Kida, a junior, is a three-year veteran who will be at point on defense. Senior Laura Reveruzzi will be a cover point. "At that position, you have to anticipate the passes coming by you. There are a lot of double teams there and a cover point has to anchor the defense," Grieve explained.

The third person will be senior returnee Katie Shannon. That position is a big part of the offense and you need to have high quality stick-handling skills, according to the coach.

Senior returnee Sheri Benton just moved to the midfield position. "That's an important place. Hopefully, Sheri can make a difference there," Grieve said.

Third home is a position for a scorer. And Agawam has one of the best around in Annie Paquette, who had 12 goals and three assists last season. "She can certainly score going through the defense," Grieve said of the senior who never stops hustling.

Paquette's counterpart is Amanda Sternowski at second home. "She has a nose for the ball and an eye on the goal," Grieve said of the senior, who had 12 goals and an assist last year.

Sarah Prussman, at first home, has a great shot, according to the coach.

10 Returning Seniors

The team will have experience across the board with 10 returning seniors. "We'll be strong down the middle for sure," Grieve noted.

Another attacker will be senior Steph Ceccarini. They will miss junior attacker Kara Barnes, who was injured at the start of the season and scored eight goals and had three assists a year ago.

They have two very fast defensive wings in junior Becca Naciewicz and sophomore Jenna Shea. They have capable substitutes consisting of senior Pam Gervais and Sara Gregory.

"We'll have that experience, plus a good fast break. And we'll be a better passing team this year as well," the coach said when assessing her club's strengths.

Boys' Tennis Preview...

Brownies Look To Improve On 1999

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

Currently, the Agawam High boys' tennis team is 0-2 and still trying to find its way. But Coach Bill Spear feels he has a team that will improve on last season's 0-13 record.

He has his three singles slots pretty well set. Junior Ryan Lepard, a right-hander, will play out the number one hole. Lepard is mostly a baseline player, according to the coach. "He has improved over the off-season in all aspects of his game through hard work," Spear said.

Number two will be held down by sophomore righty Adam Rovithis. "Adam has a blistering forehand. He'll be as good as the effort he wants to put into his game," said Spear.

Third singles goes to a newcomer, Mike Federico. The right-handed junior played well in Agawam's 4-1 loss to East Longmeadow last Thursday. "He has the athletic ability to be a fine, all-around player," Spear pointed out.

Doubles Still Open

Doubles is still open for a lot of kids. Five players are competing for four spots, with others on the fringe. The five are all returners - Ryan Hanley, Jared Hamre, Colin Murray, Mike Kirk, and Mike Krapf. "They are all showing promise. You need good chemistry for doubles play. We'll try different combinations until two click," Spear said.

They'll also have sophomore Geoff Cartello and freshman Myungsuk Ro. Both kids could figure in somewhere.

"All the players have very good attitudes this year, so we look forward to a better season," Spear added.



THE AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL girls' varsity lacrosse team for the 2000 season. Back row: Kara Barnes, Valerie Cross, Sarah Prussman, Stephanie Ceccarini, Laura Reveruzzi, Pam Gervais, Katie Shannon, Sheri Benton, and Coach Cindy Grieve. **Middle row:** Alyson Nowell, Sara Gregory, Becca Naciewicz, Lauren Kida, and Jenna Shea. **Front row:** Annie Paquette, Mary-Elizabeth Dupelle, and Amanda Sternowski. Advertiser News photo by Dave Rollins.



THE CAPTAINS AND THEIR COACH: Coach Cindy Grieve (second from the right) with the 2000 season captains of the AHS girls' varsity lacrosse team: Mary-Elizabeth Dupelle, Amanda Sternowski, and Annie Paquette. Advertiser News photo by Dave Rollins.

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Agawam

Boys' Track Preview...

Coach Dillon Is Optimistic About The Season

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

The Agawam High boys' track team had its first meet this season up at HCC against Holyoke on Tuesday. They are also a team with a lot of underclassmen and newcomers. Coach Bill Dillon is hoping they can step up and get the job done and improve on last year's 2-5 record.

On the field side, he picked out some kids. Junior captain Ryan Malanson should do well in the shot and discus. "Ryan has increased his strength. That will help," the coach said.

Justin Mercieri, another senior (and a captain), is looked upon for some good work in the discus and javelin. "A lot of kids have been out there throwing in the pre-season," noted Dillon.

Then he addressed some of the jumping events. "We have a sophomore, Brian Michel, who is going to have to get up some points in the high jump and the pole vault."

All-in-all, the coach feels they have some rebuilding to do. "But with a great attitude, that can be accomplished," he added.

They are a little thin on the track side. Junior Chris Tedone will help in the 400. Anthony Goodrow, the cross-country star, will go in the one- and two-miles. Steven Atkinson will also get some points in the one- and two-miles. Tim Chretien is a hard worker, according to the coach. The junior will be a 400 meter specialist. Soccer star Barry Ward will go in the 200 meters.

"We'll have to see. I'm optimistic, though," Dillon said.

* * *

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Schoolgirl Track...

Agawam High Wins Season-Opener Over Visiting Amherst, 81-64

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

The Agawam High girls' track team won its opener Monday, 81-64, against visiting Amherst Regional at wind-driven Harmon Smith Field.

It was a heartening way to start the season, according to Assistant Coach Dan Pryce. First, because of the performances of the freshmen, of which there are 22 on the 76-member team, and also because some veterans, not expected to do so well (because of injuries), stepped up for important points. All-Western Mass. sprinter Marie Buendo didn't even suit up because of knee problems.

"We got 32½ points from our freshmen alone against a very good Amherst team," Pryce smiled. Some good frosh showings included a long jump win by Andrea Babbini (14-8¾) and a first in the 100 meters. Jodie Pfau took the 800 meters in a time of 2:46. Danielle Cirillo was first in the 200 in a time of 30.1. She also long-jumped 14 feet, which wasn't that far off the winning mark of 14-8¾ for second. Kaitlin Sardella was third in the 400 and the 4x400 meter relay team also won, which included Sardella on the second leg and Pfau with a gritty third leg. Valerie Siedlik was the anchor and junior Amy Jensen led-off the relay.

Two veterans who had knee problems showed well. All-Western Mass. high jumper Kerry McGeoghan, with a bum left wheel, high-jumped off her right foot and soared to 4'6", only two inches under the 4'8" of meet winner Katherine Droy. "Amazing," Coach Pryce smiled.

Then there was Gina Loudfoot, running on two bad knees. She limits her track activity these days. But she came out and ran the 100 high hurdles in 18.6 seconds. "Gina blew off the field. She won by at least a second," the coach said.

Some Western Mass. Qualifiers

Some Brownies also qualified immediately for Western Mass. in this first meet. In the shot, newcomer (junior) Laura Bucalo hurled the ball 30'4" to win and is headed for the tournament. Ashlee Lorraine, a junior, pole-vaulted 8' and will

go to the tournament as well. Bianca Chase put the shot far enough out to qualify. Lauren Deluca won the triple jump at 32'4" and she'll go to Western Mass., too.

Siedlik took first in the 400 with a 68-second effort. And sophomore Kelly Cassidy was tops in the 300 hurdles with a time of 56.2 seconds.

One Brownie who was conspicuous by not competing was Buendo, because of the knee injury. Pryce just shook his head. "No one knows when she'll be back and McGeoghan, despite a gutsy jump, is scheduled for an MRI this week to see what's up with her left knee," he added.

Jensen grabbed a second in the mile run for AHS besides leading off the 4x4 relay.

Before the meet with the Hurricanes, Pryce previewed the team, and from what happened Monday, was pretty much right on by his estimation. He likes the freshmen, but predicted McGeoghan and Buendo not doing their thing could cost them 25 to 30 points a meet.

He predicted Bucalo, over from the softball team, could very well be one of the top shot putters in the Western Mass. before she's done. And we saw what she did. Cassidy was looking good in the hurdles and she did against Amherst. He predicts big things for Cirillo and she came through, as well as Babbini in the long jump, triple jump, and 100. "She's all muscle, a gymnast," he noted. Pfau was also mentioned as a future star.

"We only have nine seniors," he said. "We'll be able to score on the field side and hold our own in the sprints. Our jumps should be fine as well."

Agawam has a good group of girls' coaches. Dean Vecchiarelli is the head man. Pryce is the right-hand man. Rebecca Brown, another assistant, has done a great job. Former hurdles star Ian Lane has come back to help. Long jumper Marc Pedraza is also there. Chris Benjamin has the weight room up and running for everyone.

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For 19-7 Season...

Amber Conte 'Carries' The Team For Suffolk U. Women's Basketball

When the Suffolk University women's basketball team ended its most successful season in school history recently with a superb 19-7 record, one accolade in the storybook campaign stood out:

"I thought Amber Conte carried our team," said veteran SU coach Ed Leyden, concerning the play of the former Agawam High School standout who served as co-captain while playing the point guard position as the Blue and Gold won the Great Northeast Athletic Conference regular season title with a superb 11-1 league mark.

"Under our system, it was necessary to have someone who really knew how to distribute the ball and Amber did that quite well," said Leyden. Good enough, in fact, to lead the team in assists (134) for a 5.2 per game average, a statistic that placed her second overall in that category in the GNAC.

And when it wasn't possible to dish off Conte, the daughter of Agawam High School girls' basketball Coach Lou Conte, would display her ability to shoot. From beyond the arc, the sophomore canned 36 percent of her three-point shots, the highest percentage on the team. She held the AHS record for six three-pointers in a game before it was broken last month.

Amber was a personification of our team," noted Leyden, who was selected the GNAC Coach of the Year for the third time in four seasons by his fellow conference mentors. "The team tended to develop her personality. She's a very hard-working, determined, one-day-at-a-time person and the team as a whole took on that type of personality."

Leyden added, "I thought she made everybody better. She was very unselfish. She was also a solid defender. She played in every game and attended every practice. She is one very tough person."

Next season, Conte will return as a member of a talent-loaded Suffolk squad that is losing just one player to graduation.

"I am quite proud of the team," said Leyden, who has coached at Suffolk for six years. "We had a freshman-sophomore team, but nobody outclassed us even though we upgraded our non-league schedule and played as challenging a schedule as we possibly could. Next year will be my first Suffolk team that will be an upperclass team. I think the future looks bright for us."

Conte was an All-Western Mass. third baseman for a Western Mass. Division I girls' softball team at AHS, and she was also a midfielder on the girls' soccer team.

For photo coverage in The AAN, call 786-7747 or 786-8137; however, please give us at least 72 hours' notice. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Shauna Hadden: A Big Contributor For Suffolk U. Basketball

When the Suffolk University women's basketball team ended its most successful season in school history recently with a superb 19-7 record, veteran SU coach Ed Leyden paid Agawam's Shauna Hadden the ultimate compliment a mentor can bestow.

"Shauna is my favorite player," said Leyden of the former Agawam High hoopster who played an important supporting role in propelling the Blue and Gold to the Great Northeast Athletic Conference regular season title with a superb 11-1 league mark.

"She was a big contributor to our success with her hustle and attitude," said Leyden. "She didn't play an awful lot, but she came to practice all the time. She really made people work hard during practice and that was a major contribution to our success. A team definitely needs people like that."

Hadden, a sophomore guard, saw action in 13 of Suffolk's 26 games and contributed in most statistical categories. Last year, she earned the Coach's Award for her dedication in the classroom and at practice.

"Shauna is happy to play," stated Leyden, who was selected the GNAC of the Year for the third time in four seasons by his fellow conference mentors.

"She loves to represent the school, to be identified with the school. She loves Suffolk. I like her a lot," continued Leyden.

Next season, Hadden, who played for Lou Conte at Agawam High, will return as a member of a talent-loaded Suffolk squad that is losing just one player to graduation. She was a member of the AHS girls' championship softball team during her days as a Brownie under Coach Debbie Lickley.

"I am quite proud of the team," said Leyden, who has coached at Suffolk for six years. "We had a freshman-sophomore team, but nobody outclassed us even though we upgraded our non-



SHAUNA HADDEN

league schedule and played as challenging a schedule as we possibly could. Next year will be my first Suffolk team that will be an upperclass team. I think the future looks bright for us."

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In Tri-Parish Bowling News...

Catholic University Retains Lead With 2 Weeks Left In Round 4

Catholic University maintained its lead by beating St. Mary, 3-1, on Monday, April 3rd. CU took the first game by 55 pins, thanks to a 131-string by anchor bowler Kathy "Big Cat" Burlingham. St. Mary came right back and won the second string when no one on the CU team could bowl higher than 95 (thrown by Marsha "Smiley" Dobie).

The third string was close. Frank "Buck" Cerpovicz ran a 105 for CU, but Don "Reb" Stitt hit a 104 and sub anchor Paula "Wild Thing" Burke ran off a 105 for St. M. CU still came out on top by three pins. The handicap difference was four pins a string.

Notre Dame ended up in second place by virtue of a 4-0 shutout over Holy Cross. Cori "Lefty" Napolitan hit an even 300, and Flo "Rocky" Rochford at anchor ran of a 330 (showing some of her old form).

Ron "The Don" Menard had two good strings for HC, a 121 and a 128, but slipped in the middle string to an 83. He totaled 332 for the night to be higher bowler in the match.

Fordham won over St. Louis, 3-1. For St. L, Terry "Tiger" Cerpovicz had a good night at 312 with a 116 single. Anchor Glen "Not Sam" Adams ran a high single of 124 and a total of 344.

For Fordham, Jan "Steady" Fuller showed some of her old form by rolling a 115 high single and a series of 320. "Jolly" Olly Muldrew, Fordham's anchor, could only manage 316 for the night (good legs and all), but it was good enough for three points. St. Louis is now in fourth place and Fordham is in fifth.

In the battle for last, Boston College ran over Georgetown, 3-1. BC had a tremendous start. Maureen "Big Mo" Lyncosky hit a 137, and Betsy "Loaded" Cannon added a 157 in the first string to get a 71-pin victory. "Loaded" really unloaded in this one; she ended the night at 375 (a super night).

For G'Town, Mary "Patsy" Patnaude hit a 317 series, and anchor "Mighty" Debbie Poirier had a 129 single and a 346 total. BC is still in the cellar, but not by so much.

With two weeks remaining, the standings are:
Catholic Univ. (Round Winner) 17½-6½
Notre Dame 16-8
St. Mary (Round Winner) 15-9
St. Louis 12-12
Fordham (Round Winner) 11½-12½
Holy Cross 11-13
Georgetown 8-16
Boston College 5-19

From Daggett Gold Medal Gymnastics...

Enfield Gymnasts Qualify For National Competitions

Two women gymnasts from Enfield, Connecticut — Leah Boccaccio and Jennifer Stack — have qualified for the Level 10 Junior Olympic National Championships and Level 9 Eastern States Championships, respectively.

The girls both qualified by placing within the top seven ranks in All-Around scoring in their age groups at last weekend's Region 6, New England-New York, Championship held at the University of New Hampshire in Durham.

Boccaccio, 15, a sophomore at Enrico Fermi High School, had her highest score (9.1) in the Floor Exercise, but also did well in Vault (8.875) and Uneven Bars (8.725), taking third place in the latter.

In All-Around scoring, her 35.05 captured sixth place and the opportunity to go to the Junior Olympic National Championship on May 5th in East Lansing, Michigan. This meet is exclusively for Level 10 athletes, the highest skill level in the Junior Olympic Program. (Higher competition can only be found in the USA Gymnastics Elite Program, which is where they select our Olympic athletes.)

Stack, 11, who attends grade six in Parkman Elementary School, qualified for the Level 9 Eastern States Championship — the highest attainable event at her level — by capturing seventh place of her competition with an All-Around score of 35.65.

Stack's best individual events were Uneven Bars, taking third with a 9.025, and Floor Exercise with a 9.225 for fourth. Her upcoming meet will be held in Cleveland on April 28th.

Both girls train at Tim Daggett Gold Medal Gymnastics in Agawam, and spend approximately 20 hours per week in the gym. They are coached by Joe Saimer, co-owner and head coach of their women's program.

In College-Level Women's Lacrosse...

Amy Bilodeau Of Agawam Contributes To Bentley's Success During 2000 Season

Three different players recently registered hat tricks as Bentley College defeated Merrimack College, 12-10, in Northeast-10 women's lacrosse action at Bentley Athletic Field.

Among those who contributed to the Falcons' victory was Agawam High School graduate Amy Bilodeau, a junior at Bentley.

During this contest, Bentley (3-1, 3-1 NE-10) jumped out to a 5-0 lead in the first 10 minutes, with Bilodeau scoring the game's first three goals.

In other athletic news from the college, for just

the first time in the history of the two-year program, Bentley's women's lacrosse team has been ranked in a national poll. The Falcons are ranked 10th in the latest Brine/IWLCA Division II Women's Lacrosse Poll (which was released on Monday, April 3rd).

Head Coach Kelly West has seen vast improvement's from last year's team, and is pleased with both the newcomers and a steady base of veterans who are leading the Falcons.

Among the team's veterans is Bilodeau, who has scored 11 goals this year (already topping the 10 that she scored last season).

Our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon; however, we appreciate any articles, press releases, etc., that can be brought in on Mondays. (Our office will be open on Monday, April 17th — Patriots' Day.)



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Team Blue Wins Park & Rec. Boys' Championships

Team Blue has won the seventh- and eighth-grade Agawam Park & Rec. Boys' In-Town Basketball championship. During the semifinals, the team showed great courage and determination as they came from 11 points behind to defeat the Gray Team.

In the tremendously fought final, Blue defeated Red as the lead went back and forth several times during the game.

The boys were true sportsmen throughout the season. They were always concerned with the team's welfare, rather than with individual play. During practices, the players worked hard to improve their skills and learned multiple offenses and defenses. That hard work paid off for them during each game, as they ended their season with a regular season record of 8-2. The team had great chemistry and enjoyed their season together.

The friendships continued for the boys as they went to a Falcons hockey game for a post-season celebration.

Coaches Scott Skolnick, Bill Pass, and Tom Chapman want to congratulate this great bunch of kids and to thank them for a memorable season.

Starting May 15th...

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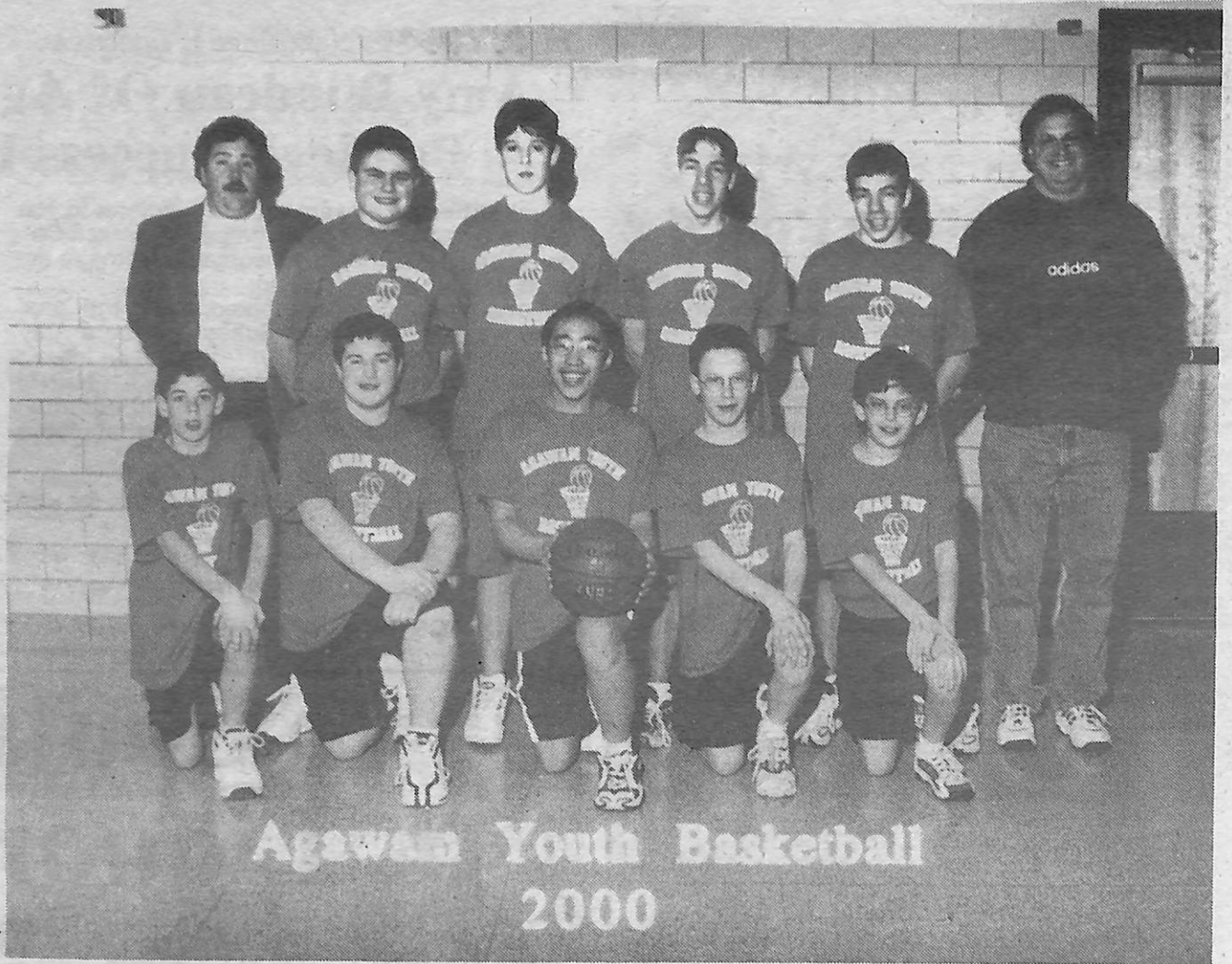
Starting May 15th, there will be divisions for U17 boys/girls; college for open men/women, over 30's for men/women; over 40's coed/open; or request an age bracket. The cost is \$425 per team, and the registration deadline is May 1st.

What's more, sign up now for Twister summer camps. This is great fun for U13 and younger players, as well as an opportunity for them to learn skills from the pros.

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CONGRATULATIONS TO "TEAM BLUE": back row — Coach Bill Pass, Mike Mason, Chris McKenney, Bryan LaChapelle, Mike LaChapelle, and Coach Scott Skolnick; front row — Kevin Olbrych, Chris Pass, William Loong, David Boss, and Jared Skolnick. (Missing from photo: Jeff Chapman and Coach Tom Chapman.)

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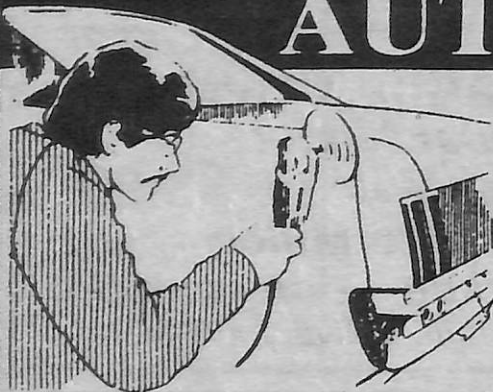
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Outdoors New England

by Kent Servis
Outdoor Writer

MAWAGA DERBY A SUCCESS DESPITE THE WEATHER

A group of hearty anglers greeted the annual Mawaga Sporting Club's Lunker Derby on the morning of Sunday, April 9th. What started out as a halfway decent morning turned into a mid-April blizzard by 11:00 a.m.

A pond full of trout (with some in the three-pound class) cooperated early, as the first fish came to net within seconds of the start of the derby. The club was heartened by the turnout, despite the bad weather.

A big assortment of door and raffle prizes was given away at the end of the derby, and everyone had a good — although somewhat chilly time — at this year's Lunker Derby.

A full report on the winners will be forthcoming in the next column.

MASSACHUSETTS STRIPER REGULATIONS CHANGE

The new regulations regarding the recreational catch of striped bass has changed this year. Fishermen looking to keep a tasty striper will have to meet the minimum length requirement of 30 inches. Massachusetts law limits the daily creel to one 30-inch or longer striper per day.

Speaking of stripers, the first group of schoolies has started showing up at the mouth of the Connecticut River. It won't be long before we start to see some of the migrating fish from the hudson.

CONNECTICUT OPENER SET FOR SATURDAY, APRIL 15TH

Connecticut anglers will be celebrating the opening of the fishing season on Saturday, the 15th of April. In keeping with tradition, I will be joining a few friends on the banks of the Scantic River in Somers.

While Massachusetts anglers are blessed with a year-round fishing season, there is something to be said for the excitement, hype, and hoopla of an opening day. Somehow, the much-anticipated excitement of "opening day" adds to the whole experience.

All of the Nutmeg State's trout waters have been stocked prior to now, and the fish should be fairly well-dispersed along the various streams and rivs. Connecticut lakes and ponds should also provide some great opening-day action come daybreak this Saturday.

FISH REPORTS FRESH WATER

Kurt over at Saunders Marina on Congamond Lakes tells us that the early-morning trout fishermen have been having fairly good success trolling near the surface with both flies and hardware.

Once the sun gets high in the sky, try using lead core or downriggers to work the area of the water column from six to 15 feet.

The Connecticut River is near flood stage and probably won't be fishable for another week or so. Once the run-off clears and visibility is restored, a few shad will start to show up on the business end of a shad dart or willow leaf.

Valley streams should be in good shape after the initial run-off from the snow and rain of this week.

THAMES RIVER STRIPERS

Reports coming from the Thames River proved that you don't have to go to the wilderness to find quality fishing. Within sight of the downtown Norwich launch ramp, some great fishing for schoolie stripers and an occasional BIG fish is happening NOW.

Use your fish finder in conjunction with the channel markers to locate the creek channel and schools of fish. The rock piles with the green channel markers are excellent structures to begin the search. Someone has already provided structure, along with defining the channel edge!

The stripers have been holding in areas next to the deep water channel. Brown- or smoke-colored jigs fished on half-ounce lead heads did the trick.

Another variation that worked well was a brown Slug-go impaled on the jig head, with the hook exposed.

Let the jig sink to the bottom, retrieving it with jerks on the rod. Stripers will often strike as the jig falls after having been swept forward and up with the movement of the rod. They will often hit it like a freight train going in the opposite direction, but sometimes when they are finicky, they will take it lightly.

The only hint that you may have that a fish has picked it up, is the lack of "feel" for the weight of the jig. It also pays to watch the point where the line enters the water. Concentrate on the line, setting the hook if the jig stops falling, or if there is a twitch in the line.

Fresh water bass tackle is sufficient, and a lot of fun. Until such time that the big stripers

become more numerous, the lightweight stuff will give a spectacular fight. Eight- to 10-pound line is plenty; just make sure to set the drag properly.

SALT WATER REPORT COD FISHERMEN SCORING

Cod fishing has been good when the weather has cooperated enough for the boats to get out of port. Joe Huckmeyer of the Helen H out of Hyanis, and the captain and crew of the Andy Lynn fleet out of Plymouth, have been doing well on trips to the banks.

Winter flounder fishing continues in in-shore areas around Old Saybrook and Niantic. A fresh slug of stripers is due to come in from Long Island Sound any day now. Happy days are here again! See you on the water. Good luck!

Coaches Baseball Camp At Sacred Heart

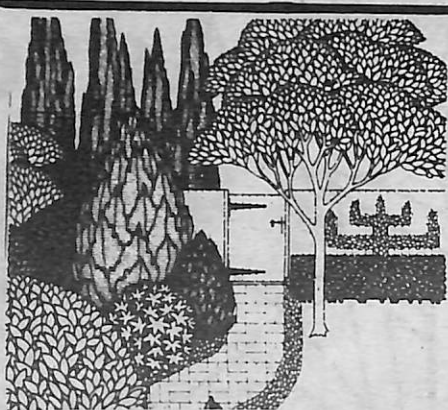
The Coaches Baseball Camp will be conducting a mini-camp at Sacred Heart Church during the April vacation.

The dates are Monday, April 17th through Wednesday, April 19th from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00

noon and the cost is \$45.

Registration is at the field the morning of April 19th. Participation ages include eight through 14. For more information, contact Brian Rheault at 789-4792 or Lou Conte at 786-7729.

JUST A REMINDER: Our office will be open on Monday, April 17th (Patriots' Day)...



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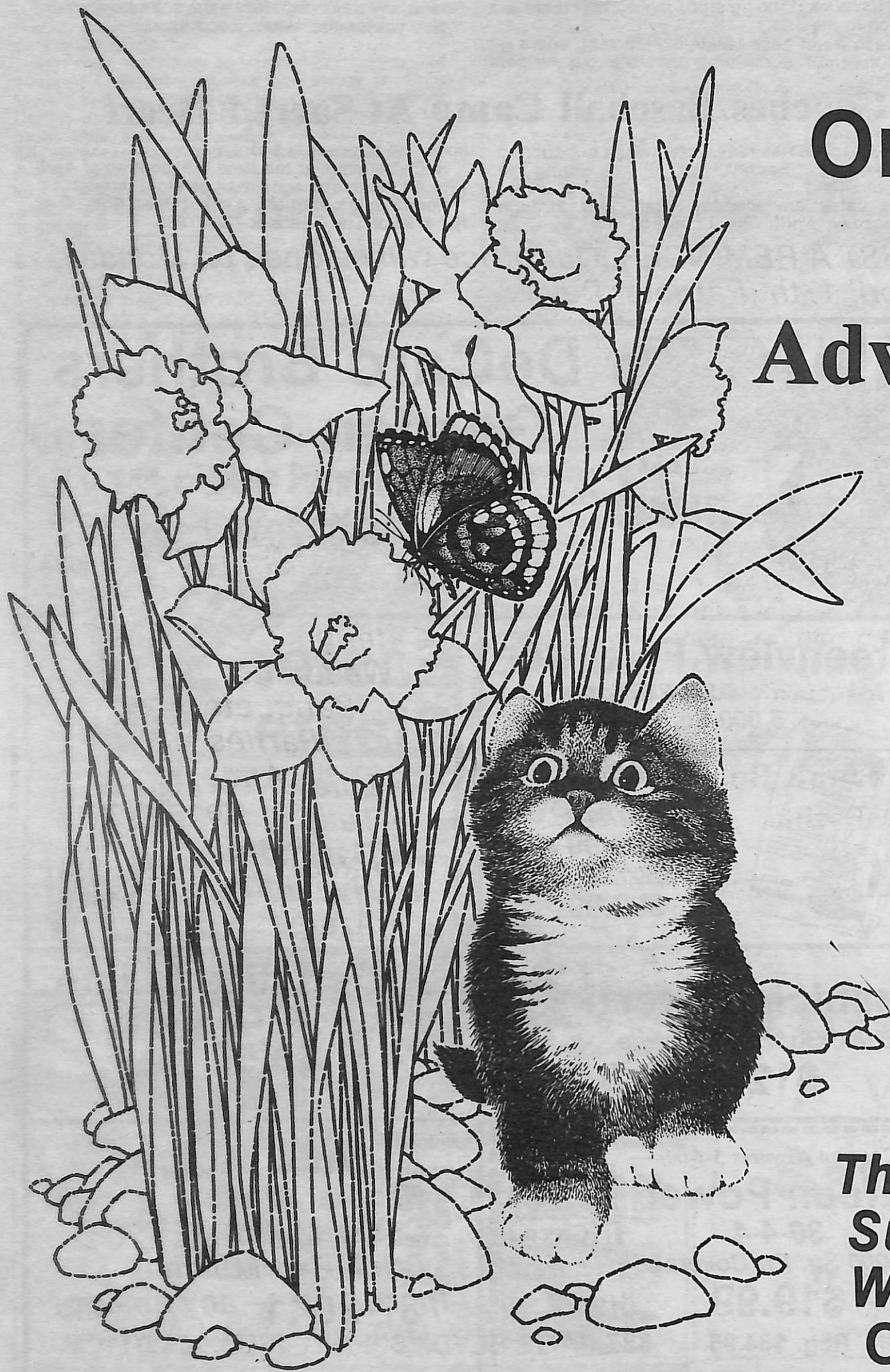
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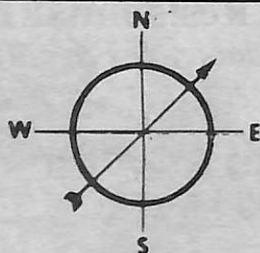
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MOVING — MUST SELL: Snowblower, 10 hp; leaf blower, 8 hp; also hand-held leaf blower; refrigerator, 18.7 cu. ft.; washer & dryer; air conditioners, 10,000 BTU & 8,000 BTU. Call 786-3539.

PERSONAL

THANK YOU ST. JUDE

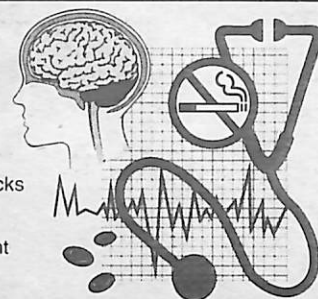
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